

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

January - December 2000

Volume 57

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

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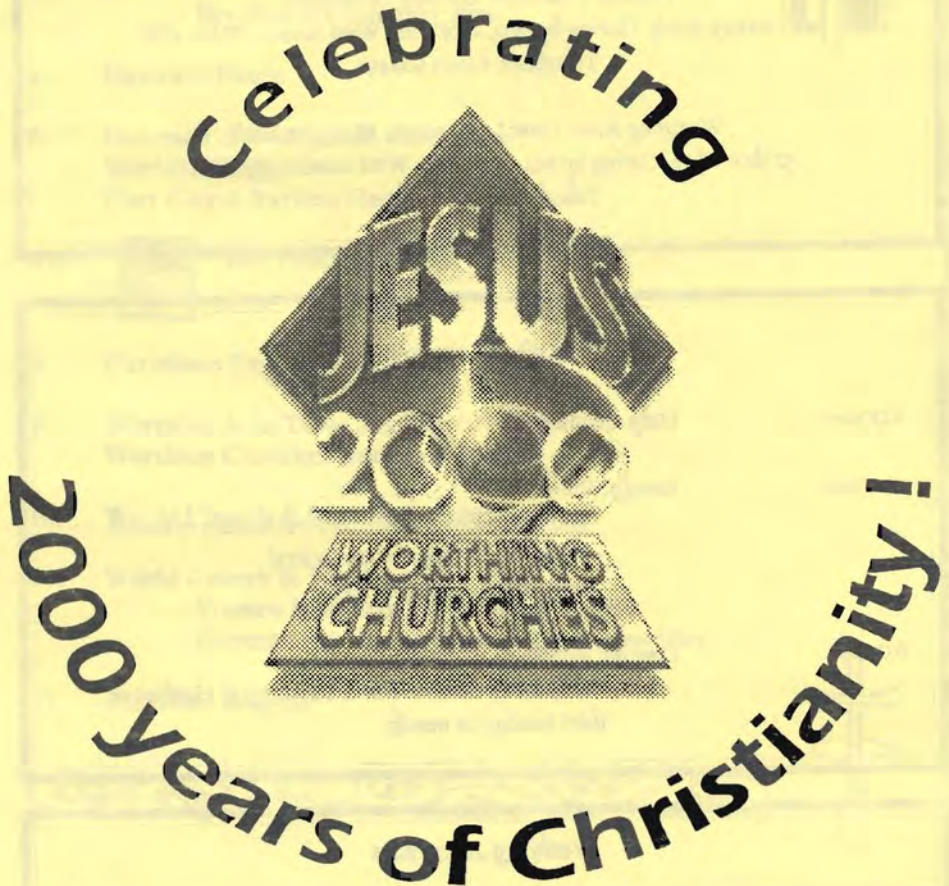


CHRONICLE

January 2000

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

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



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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Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Worship

- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- GAS (God's Appreciation Society)
- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship

- with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on third Sunday in month.

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover


The CHRONICLE

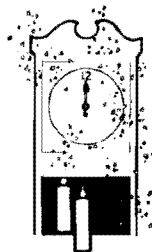


No. 539

January 2000

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Dear friends,

This is the first newsletter of a new Millennium and as we move into this new phase of the church's life, how many of us are expecting great changes? When the church celebrated its first Millennium not a great deal had changed in the lives of most people since the apostles reached out in the power of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Most people still lived very closely to the seasons of the land from which they earned their living, their homes and way of life had not greatly altered even the structure of society had not drastically changed for most people during the first thousand years of the church. One thing had changed dramatically and that was faith. The growth of Christianity had introduced people to a new concept of God, a God who loved and cared for them and was to be worshipped in a real and personal way rather than a number of gods who had to be appeased and feared. Those who celebrated this first Millennium could hardly have imagined the changes that would take place during the next. They would have rejoiced at the increase in the number of people who heard the Good News of Jesus even in lands that they did not even know existed. However, it was probably inconceivable to them that at the close of the second Millennium there should be so many who doubted the existence of God and who had turned their back on his love and sacrifice for them. Little could they have imagined that the church of Jesus Christ here in Britain would be working in an environment where they were clearly in a minority, still preaching amid many other religions.

The last century of the past Millennium saw more changes in the way we live, work, travel and view the world than in any of the years that had gone before. There is a great sense of anticipation for more change in the coming years than perhaps ever before. One thing however, has remained and will remain constant and that is God's love and care for his people.

When Jesus died on the cross the mark of this love and care was made on history for all time and no matter what changes may or may not go on the cross remains constant. The church lives in the midst of these changes however and must forever be seeking to be guided by the Holy Spirit as the Gospel is proclaimed. Those who celebrated the first Millennium would be amazed that they could come into church and hear the service in their native tongue, they would be even more amazed that

(Continued on page 3)

Pastoral News

Rev. Ronald Christopher

Rev Ronald Christopher died peacefully at his home in Lomas House, Worthing on Saturday 11th December. He was 89.

His pastorates included those at West Wycombe, North Shields, Salfords Central Mission and Crossways Mission in London. Ron 'retired' to Worthing from Burgess Hill URC in 1978 to be inducted as the Associate Minister here at Goring from '79 - '86 with a special responsibility for work at Durrington.

He was a leading member of the Durrington Community Centre Association and was an enthusiastic founder of the Durrington Ecumenical Project. We give many thanks to the Lord for Ron's life who was a friend to all, and for all that he has done in and for Christ's Church. We pray for peace in the hearts of his family and friends.

Handbook Amendment

Mrs Mavis Morris

Change of address to -
1 Arundel Court,
Elverlands Close
Ferring, Worthing,
BN12 5QE
Tel: 01903 241492

Thank you

Although I have been confined to the flat for several weeks and cut off from all church activities, I have been overwhelmed by your prayers, flowers, cards, and expressions of love and good wishes. My thanks to every one of you. It is indeed a joy to know one belongs to such a caring church family. May God bless you all and grant you His peace at this special season.

Audrey Gerlach

(from The Manse . . . Continued from page 2)

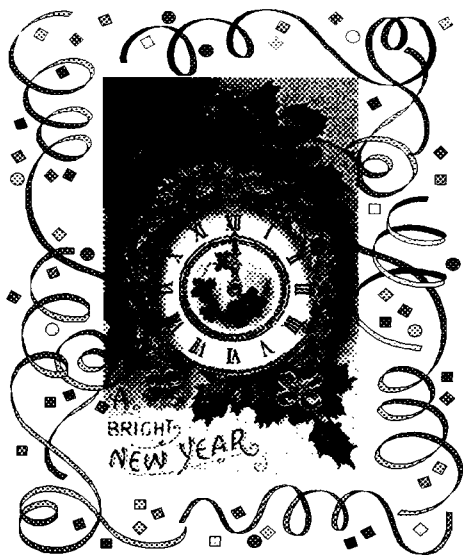
there would be Bibles available for all to read. These changes have become part of our way of worship and proclamation and few of us would want to turn the clock back a thousand years. Perhaps a thousand years on people will be amazed that we worship in the way we do now and they too will not want to turn the clock back. God remains the same from Millennium to Millennium for He is the eternal God who became flesh and made his mark on our history. He is the God of yesterday, today and tomorrow, the alpha and the omega, the first and the last beyond time and it's measurement. The challenge to the church is surely to proclaim His constant love in all that we say and all that we do in a way that speaks to each generation. Let us continue to uphold one another in prayer as we seek to undertake this task within the Worthing Area Team Ministry.

*Your servants in Christ,
Peter and Eileen Heckels.*

Hayward House flat lets available

Hayward House is organised to provide comfortable, economical homes for up to five retired people.

At present we have two small flatlets available to rent. If anyone knows of someone who would benefit from this, or would like more information, please contact *Bobby Hitchin on Worthing 249580*



Member's Handbooks

Member's Handbooks are always available by special request even though the last one may have been taken from the table at the back of the Church. So, if you haven't got a copy yet or you would like another, please speak to Graham Redman.

Forthcoming in The Chronicle

This year our Church celebrates its Diamond Jubilee and commencing next month *The Chronicle* will be producing a series of articles illustrating the life of the church as seen through past Chronicles. From February to September we will be looking at different decades, starting in the 1930's and leading up to this event in 2000.

OUTREACH & EVANGELISM.

The Alpha course finished on Monday the 6th December and the four people who attended regularly since September found it not only informative but it opened their eyes to all that the Christian faith offers to those who believe. Those of us who have been Christians for many years found ourselves renewed and uplifted and were sorry to miss any of the sessions.

We shall miss the fellowship we have had on Monday evenings especially during the excellent meals we shared and thanks must go to all those who shopped, prepared meals and washed up - 14 people took part in this. Our thanks go too to Peter who only missed one of the 13 sessions and we are most

grateful for his teaching.

Where do we go next? Well the Committee meet on Monday 10th January so watch this space. We would ask that you continue to pray for us as we reach out to the Community around us to share with them the Good News of Jesus and the Kingdom of God.

Thank you as well to those who delivered the Christians Together in Goring. leaflets and our own. advertising the various Christmas services.

What would we do without you.

Sheila Gooderham

Caer Gwent Nursing Home

Volunteers are wanted to serve coffees to residents for two mornings a week.

Please speak to Janet Dean if you can help. - Thank you.

ROWLAND SINGERS DECEMBER CONCERT

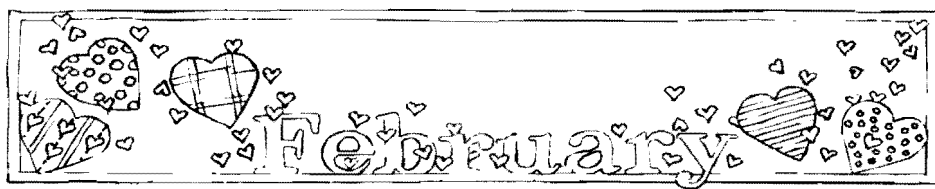
The 30th Anniversary Concert the Rowland Singers gave in our church on Wednesday 8th December was not very well attended, but we realise that people have many commitments at this time. We are grateful to Rev Margaret Ashby for introducing the choir and welcoming the 'select' audience and she herself said how nice it was to be able to take part. The choir enjoyed themselves and thank all who came.

Sheila Gooderham.

For your Diary in 2000...



Sun 2	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion	National 'Try Church Again' Sunday
	10.30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion	
		No Service this evening.	
Mon 3		Bank Holiday	
Tue 4		Women's Guild. The Old Rectory, Crowhurst	
Thu 6	7.30am - 7.30pm	New Year's Prayer Day Vigil	
Fri 7	2.00pm	Kestro. Bell Ringers from Rustington	
Sun 9	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion	Sun 16th Jan. last day for February Chronicle material
	10.30am	Family Worship	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship	
Wed 12	9.30am	Painting for Fun. Start of Spring session	
Thu 13	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	
Fri 14	2.00pm	Kestro. Board Games	
Sun 16	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion	Daily Services See page 8 For details
	10.30am	Family Worship	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion	
Tue 18	2.30pm	Women's Guild. 'Open all Hours'	
	7.30pm	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th-25th) at St Mary's	
Wed 19	7.30pm	Churches Together in Worthing Steyne Gardens Methodist	
Thu 20	7.30pm	Sussex West District Meeting. Shelley Rd URC	
Fri 21	2.00pm	Kestro. 18th Anniversary Tea	
Tue 25	12.30pm	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St Mary's	
Sun 23	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion	
	10.30am	Family Worship	
	6.00pm	CTG Service St Mary's	
Thu 27	7.30pm	Church Meeting	
Fri 28	2.00pm	Kestro. Chestnut Tree Appeal	
Sun 30	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion	
	10.30am	Family Worship	
	6.00pm	Evening Worship	



Tue	1	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Chestnut Tree House
Thu	3		Day of Prayer
Fri	4	2.00pm	Kestro. Pencil & Paper Games
6		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
Thu	10	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Fri	11	2.00pm	Kestro. AGM
13		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
Tue	15	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Help the Aged
Fri	18	2.00pm	Kestro. Penguins & Iceburgs
20		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion
Thu	24	7.30pm	Church Meeting
27		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
Tue	29	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Worthing Women's Aid



Looking ahead

Sunday 5th March	CTG Service St Richard's 6pm
Sunday 2nd April	Mothering Sunday
Sunday 23rd April	Easter Day
Sunday 14th May	Junior Church Anniversary Start of Christian Aid Week



CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN GORING.

The Millennium Year

The year 2000 promises to be one full of Christian based events in celebration of the coming of Jesus to the world two millennia ago. One of the major events to be held in

Goring will be in the Summer, namely the outdoor Service of Christian Witness and Celebration to be held on the sea-front on Sunday, 16 July which will be called 'Praise 2000'.

Although preparations have been in hand for some time, much remains to be done and we hope to be able to enlist the help of Church members before and on the day. More on this later.

Week of Prayer for -
Christian Unity 18 - 25 Jan

All the services will be held at St. Mary's Church, Goring, opening with a Unity Service at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 18 January. With the exception of Sunday, 23 January, Prayer Services will be held at 12.30pm each day, lasting about half an hour, the last Service being on 25th January.

CTG Joint Service.

The next Joint Service will take place at St. Mary's Church on Sunday, 23rd January, commencing at 6.00pm.

Lent Course.

It is proposed to hold a series of Lent Courses, along the same lines as those in 1999, called 'All Together Now'. Further details will appear in the February Chronicle.

Eric Bond

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'A'

1	The first man created by God and given charge of the Garden of Eden. Gen 1-4	6	King who heard Paul's defence at Caesarea. Acts 25
2	Moses' brother and spokesman; first high priest of Israel. Ex 4 - Num	7	First Roman Emperor, who ordered the census which brought Mary & Joseph to Bethlehem. Luke 2
3	Peter's brother, a fisherman. Matt 4, John 1	8	Prophet from Tekoa who declared God's message to Israel. Amos
4	Father of the nation of Israel. Gen 11 - 25	9	Prophetess in the temple at the time Jesus was presented. Phanuel's daughter. Luke 2
5	Nabal's wife; later married David. 1 Sam 25	10	Second son of Adam & Eve. Gen 4

Answers: -

6. Agrippa
7. Augustus
8. Amos
9. Anna
10. Abel
1. Adam
2. Aaron
3. Andrew
4. Abraham/Abram
5. Abigail

WORTHING AREA TEAM MINISTRY

I am sure you will have all noticed recent changes in Welcome and the Chronicle in which we are expressing our identity within the Team Ministry; this is extending to our headed notepaper and probably our notice board as well in due course. These are outward signs of far deeper and more significant changes and attitudes which are becoming more apparent as we develop working in the Team.

We have been richly blessed by the arrival of Margaret, and her contribution within the group is beneficial to us all, and we thank God for this. Pastoral caring, particularly of those in hospital, and also for our friends in Rustington is now being shared between our ordained ministers. All the members of all four churches should feel that they have access to at least one of the ministers who is becoming known to them (for the present) as their contact minister.

All four churches are receiving an equal distribution of stipendiary ministry on

Sundays. Inevitably this means that there are Sundays when Peter is ministering to others in the group, but they, as well as we, have more Sundays of pulpit supply, or one of the other Team ministers than before. In this we are being well served.

At our Team meetings we are giving consideration to the District paper "Future for West Sussex" on deployment of ministers, and also to the suggestion of integrating our youth work. Each church has leaders and gifts with different age groups which could well complement each other. It may be sensible to take advantage of these talents within the Team to enrich the experience and fellowship available for our own young people who otherwise may be in isolation. We would have a responsibility in this.

Please continue to pray thoughtfully for our deliberations and responsibilities, that we and the church together seek God's will and fulfil our calling.

Jane Bond



WORTHING CHURCHES
HOMELESS PROJECTS

We have received a letter from the Worthing Churches Homeless Projects thanking us for providing a stall at the Homeless Projects Christmas Fayre on Saturday 4th December. The letter states that the stall raised £40.10 and goes on to say,

'The overall total for the fayre was £1220 compared with £1000 last year, and it seemed a very happy occasion. The directors and staff are very grateful to everyone for the time and effort and goods which they gave so generously, and for the continuing support the Projects receive.'

Bobby Hitchin & Geoffrey Dean

World Church & Mission Committee.

I must apologise for not putting in the Chronicle any articles from this Committee since I took over as Chairman. but not only have I been finding my feet. Joan Fordham has as well as she is the contact person and does the correspondence - but we are getting there.

This Committee has a responsibility for keeping the church informed of all we do with regard to overseas Mission and we support Ruth Chatfield in Congo who writes to us regularly and the Hope Church in Half Assini, Ghana. The contact here writes on a personal level rather than about the church but we are hoping to rectify this. We also support the Bible Society, Christian Aid, Tear Fund and Tear Craft and we have events and collections to support these financially. We have recently agreed to support Richard Burton of the Living Hope Ministries and Ray Whittle of Paraclete Mission. Dr.Burton and Rev Whittle (and others) have visited our

church before and as they are based locally we feel we shall get plenty of feed back from them. As we have money left at the end of this year in our budget, we are sending them donations for their funds.

Although we play a 'passive' role we feel our responsibility lies in bringing before you the needs of all the above and praying regularly for them. We ask that perhaps you can do the same.

We are sorry to have to say that because of her health our long-standing member and Treasurer, Florrie Freeman, has had to resign. We are sorry to lose her and thank her for all the hard work she has done over many, many years for overseas mission and especially the Leprosy Mission. Thank you Florrie.

Sheila Gooderham - Chairman.

"Of all the trees that are in the wood, tile holly bears tile crown."

Only the female holly tree bears the bright red berries which are so much a part of traditional Christmas decorations. As one of Britain's few native evergreen trees, the holly's leaves and berries were almost certainly used as a winter decoration in pre-Christian times.

Being thick, with a waxy surface, the leaves resist water loss and last up to four years on the tree. Sharp spines on the lower leaves protect them from browsing animals while the upper leaves are spineless. The holly is certainly an enduring tree that knows how to take care of itself. No wonder it "bears the crown"!



Women ministers are unhappy at work

Women ministers for the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan (PCT) are unhappy with their jobs, a survey has shown.

Ministers from Tunghai University Centre surveyed over 200 women who had completed a Master of Divinity between 1953 and 1998 in PCT's theological schools. Many of these women no longer serve in the church and a majority of those who do feel that they are not paid enough. Most earn less than 30,000 Taiwanese dollars (US\$930) a month, while men usually receive between 40,000 and 50,000 Taiwanese dollars.

A woman leading the same church as

her husband will receive half her normal salary or not get paid, as she is seen by the congregation as the minister's wife and not as a minister in her own right, the survey found. Often a church will decide to ordain the husband minister and not the wife, as it cannot afford to pay for two ordained leaders. Indeed, 56% of women graduating from PCT's theological schools do not get ordained.

Women ministers also said that church, family and social responsibilities wore them down. They are usually employed in small churches, and therefore have to do all kinds of jobs, even cooking and cleaning, the report said.

Government clamps down on house churches

Security officers in south-western Henan province, China, arrested over 30 Protestant house church leaders on 23rd August as they met in a believer's home for teaching on prayer, said human rights organisation Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) in a press release.

The arrests are part of a national clampdown on what the government calls "illegal religious cults", CSW said. The tight security in the run up to the 50th anniversary of the People's Republic of China on 1st October is also increasing pressure.

Religious believers face strong restrictions in China. "Although it is estimated that there are around 50-80 million house church believers, in contrast to the 10 million in the official Protestant church, the government continues to refuse to acknowledge the validity of the house churches and to classify them as cults rather than mainstream Christians," CSW said. "This is in spite of the fact that the government's atheist stance clearly disqualifies it from making theological judgement of correct doctrine."

The two above reports are taken from 'Inside Out' - Journal of the Council for World Mission.

CHRISTINA GEORGINA ROSSETTI - 1830 - 1894

*Love came down at Christmas
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and Angels gave the sign.*

Among the carols sung again this Christmas will have been the much loved 'Love came down at Christmas' and 'In the bleak midwinter' by Christina Rossetti.

Christina Georgina Rossetti was born at Portland Place in London in 1830. Her father was an Italian refugee who became professor of Italian at King's College, London; her mother, the daughter of another Italian living in London. The family was to become famous in literary and artistic circles. Her brothers, Dante Gabriel and William Michael were founder members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, and Christina contributed to their journal, *The Germ*. Dante Gabriel illustrated her first book, *Goblin Market* and other poems, published in 1862.

Affection and religion were the driving forces of Christina's life and the chief subjects of her verse. She never married because the man she loved, Mr. Collinson became a Roman Catholic. She did not recover from the blow for many years, and she declined a further offer of marriage later.

It can be said that her best work was devotional. She was a fervent lover of flowers, books and animals and she possessed an intense appreciation of the visual beauties of the world. But her most successful poetry is suffused with her deep faith. One of her friends described her: 'She never obtruded her piety, yet I felt instinctively that I was in the presence of a holy woman.' It is poignant that Christina's poem 'Remembrance' has recently been voted the most liked love poem in a BBC viewer's poll.

In her middle age she went to live with her mother at 30, Torrington Square in Bloomsbury. She seldom left the house except to attend the local Anglican church. She died 29th December 1894 and was-buried in Highgate Cemetery. The poet Swinburne composed her funeral elegy.

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God almighty,
Jesus Christ.*

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club).

Little Fishes Play Group.

Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening.

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons.

Thursday Mornings.

Alternate Thursday Afternoons.

Friday Afternoons.

Every Weekday.

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The February edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 30th January.

Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 16th January. Thank you.

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The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

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CHRISTINA GEORGINA ROSSETTI - 1830 - 1894

Widowed

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This year Goring URC celebrates it's 60th anniversary and from now until the autumn The Chronicle will be looking at the six decades leading up to this year, 2000, in the September issue.

Shelley Road's magazine 'Outlook' reports on the early stages of forming a new church in the West Worthing area. This month the 1930's

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 Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Family Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month. - GAS (God's Appreciation Society) - Junior Church with Crèche |
| 6.00pm | Evening Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on third Sunday in month. |

Weekday Activities


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The CHRONICLE

No. 540

February 2000

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- 14 & 15. **World Church & Mission.**
16. **Can you name these people ?**



Dear Friends,

Can we begin this month by saying thank you to all that have offered support in many ways over the time when our family was incapacitated. Thank you too for all the Christmas greetings that arrived to cheer us up at a time when we perhaps were not as filled with joy and anticipation as we usually are.

Love and care are expressed in so many ways that it is often easy to forget that it is God's love and care that lie behind them. Yet, this is what we need to begin to exhibit in our lives as disciples of Jesus. To many in the world there is a coldness and even a distinct lack of love or care which bring them to doubt the existence of a God of love let alone his presence in their life. Our task is to rekindle in such people their desire to seek God. This is no easy task and no matter how many words are spoken, it is unlikely that they will cause a spark on their own. However, it may well be that through what each one of us does as we live out our discipleship that others will seek out the force that motivates our living. People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care.

Actions however are not enough either for we will not bring others to Jesus simply through the way we live we do need to tell the world what we know. Each one of us has a responsibility to Jesus to bring others to faith that they may worship him. It is not enough that we all live good lives, that is not what opens the gates of eternal life for us it is Jesus who brings the gift of resurrection and who takes away the fear of death from our living. Jesus wants each one of us to draw closer to him so that he may draw closer to us to strengthen and encourage us in our living.

The sad thing is that so many people think we must all wait until we go to heaven to receive what God offers when God wants to begin to give us something of himself now. Then when we see face to face how we shall rejoice, along with all those who have come to know Jesus as Saviour, God and King, at his love and care

Please continue to pray for us as we are seeking the Lord's guidance as to the way forward at this time.

*Your servants in Christ,
Peter and Eileen Heckels..*

Pastoral News

Thank you

Gladys & Bill Marshall send love and thanks for the lovely flowers Hilary so kindly delivered a few Sunday evenings ago. They say that they were a joy and certainly helped their recovery from the 'flu'.

.....

Bill West thanks everybody for their kindness whilst he was in hospital. Since then he left for Cape town on 23rd December to spend Christmas with his family.

He says that he enjoyed temperatures around 93° with a nice cool breeze off the sea. His GP said to him on one of his visits to the surgery after being discharged from hospital, "Can I come as well?" !!!

.....

On behalf of Ruth can we say thank you to all who sent cards, gave gifts and expressed words of encouragement to Ruth as she embarked on her trip to Australia.

They have now arrived safely and without any problems, and were met by Michael and Sandy Burrage who are kindly either putting them up for a short while or putting up with them for a short while – whichever!! Michael is the son of Joan and Les Burrage – isn't God's family wonderful?

Please hold Ruth and Chris in your prayers that they may have a wonderful and safe trip with God watching over them each step. Many thanks,

Peter and Eileen.

.....

I wish to thank the many people who sent me flowers and cards whilst I was in hospital, also when I came home the cards & flowers still came in. I had visits from several people including Wilf Rhodes who made me realise that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

The treatment is going well. Thanks again,

Daphne Eames

Handbook Amendment

Death
Mrs Jean Marsh
16 January 00

We give thanks to God for the life of Jean and for all that she has done in Christ's church.

Amongst the many roles Jean undertook was with the children in Junior Church during the late '70s and as Leader during the early '80s.

We pray for the peace in the hearts of her and Fred's family at this time. Fred died in April 1997.

Rev. Ronald Christopher

I was so sad to hear about Ron's death on 11th December. He was such a good friend to us all and I will miss not being able to discuss the Sunday service or the preacher or his holidays as I drive him back to Lomas House on a Sunday.

He always had a good sense of humour, he was never ruffled nor put out by anyone. I know only a very little of his history and background, but his wide preaching and pastoral experience showed in so many ways. Some years ago he was elected to our Elder's Meeting - quite an unusual situation for a Minister - and he always had sensible things to say. He used his experience in a positive, not a verbose way!

I forget dates, but believe it might have been around 1983, that Ron did possibly his "greatest" work amongst us, when he worked so hard to bring the Durrington Ecumenical Project to fruition. I attended a number of meetings with him, as I was an Elder at the time, and worked in the Durrington shopping area. The local Council made promise after promise about grants of land and money to get a Community Centre built, always backing down, always changing their plans. After three or four years of haggling and pressing, Ron almost came to the point of giving up on the scheme. It seemed that it would never happen, and then by Tesco's good offices a site was found and I believe they paid for the services of water and electricity to be laid on to the site, and then success was in sight. Only Ron's charming persistence and farsighted care kept the ball rolling in the right direction. Then, of course he became the new church's first minister, at a time when he had retired to Worthing and his wife, Elspeth's, health was not good.

It was lovely to see the care and support that he received from his family during his last weeks. That speaks for itself.

Ron has held a unique position in the history of our Church, will we ever see the like of him again?

Wilfred Rhodes

JUNIOR CHURCH

As we move away from the Christmas festivities, we would like to thank you all for your encouragement and support with our Christmas Nativity Service. The children did very well; I am pleased to say £45 was collected as a retiring offering which will go to the Night Shelter.

We continue to give thanks to God for the many children who come along to hear about the love of Jesus, which we share with them Sunday by Sunday. I have just completed a list of names of all children and young people within Junior Church for Hilary's URC statistical return. We have 38 children and young people between the ages of 0 and 15 years old, some who attend more regularly than others. We are greatly encouraged by the numbers but at the same time very much aware of the challenge.

Every year we ask the children where they would like their offerings to be donated.

Normally the leaders have to suggest different places but this year a child suggested the Blue Peter 1999 Appeal for New Life, it was voted for unanimously. For those of you who don't already know about it (like me! I had to find out) Blue Peter are working with BLISS (Baby Life Support Systems) to supply urgently needed equipment to special care baby units in hospitals all over the United Kingdom. Every day at least 100 babies are born too small, too early or with problems, which mean they need special life-saving care. Our children feel that this is

something they want to support. Not only have they decided to donate most of their offerings but I have also been asked if they can run a Bring & Buy for New Life, so watch future issues for more details on that. A small proportion of their offerings have also gone to The Chestnut Tree Appeal and MAAF.

We have just begun this year's Bible Exploration with the children, 7 years old and upward. The theme this year is "Angles on Jesus". We trust the children will enjoy looking at passages from Mark's gospel, which focus on different aspects of Jesus. We will be encouraging them to think about their own views of Jesus and challenging them to look at Jesus from new viewpoints. We have 18 youngsters taking part, and hope and pray that they will find the course fun, interesting and challenging. It will run over a period of approximately 11 weeks, which should take us up to the end of March.

Central to everything that we do is the love of Jesus we share with the children. As relationships with the children deepen through His love we find ourselves rewarded in so many ways, not least in our own growth. If you would like to share your love with the children why not offer yourself as a teacher or helper. You won't be disappointed! Come and have a chat with me. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your prayers, support and encouragement as we share the love of God with the children.

Junior Church Co-ordinator.

Wilma Smith

Alpha

Following the recent Alpha Course held last year some people have asked for a course to be held in the daytime. Subject to agreement by the January Church Meeting, we propose that this should take place on Friday mornings beginning on the 25th Feb at 10am starting with coffee. The morning should last about 1½ hours. If you would like to attend please let Peter or me know. Will you also let us know whether you would like to come to Alpha but the day and/or time arranged is not convenient.

We shall also invite those in our neighbourhood area and we shall need volunteers for delivery.

The Alpha course contained a video on 'Healing' which we propose showing, together with a David Watson video on the same subject on two Monday evenings in February, the 7th and 14th at 7.30pm in the Harris Room.

There was a general meeting last year at which the Healing Ministry in our church was discussed.

All those interested will be very welcome.

Sheila Gooderham.

Hayward House Flatlet available

Hayward House is organised to provide comfortable, economical homes for up to five retired people.

At present we have a two room flatlet still available to rent. If anyone knows of someone who would benefit from this, or would like more information, please contact -

Bobby Hitchin, Tel: 249580

Jane Bond, Tel: 244157

New Year's Day of Prayer

Robin Bradley thanks all those who helped in any way with this New Year's Day of Prayer. Some standing in at very short notice for those falling sick at this time. Thank you too, to Graham for printing the lists used on that day.

Caer Gwent Nursing Home

Volunteers are wanted to serve coffees to residents for two mornings a week. Please speak to Janet Dean if you can help. - Thank you.

Women's World Day of Prayer

The Christian women of Indonesia invite you to join them in prayer on - Friday 3rd March 2000



3pm St Mary's C of E, Goring.

Speaker Irene Tuley

8pm St Michaels RC, High Salvington.

Speaker: Anna Cooke

'TALITHA KOUUM' YOUNG WOMAN, STAND UP





Women's World Day of Prayer will be celebrated in almost 180 countries on Friday March 3rd, 2000.

Each year the Order of Service to be used throughout the world on the Day of Prayer is prepared by Christian Women in a different country. This year it is the turn of Indonesia.

The exotic islands of Indonesia are sometimes described as 'emeralds set in a sapphire sea'. They separate the Indian and Pacific Oceans along the Equator. Recently the country has experienced much civil unrest as the people strive for greater democracy. Economic depression means that many now live below the poverty line.

However the women of Indonesia have not lost faith. In this special year they remind us of the story of Jairus' daughter and the words of Jesus - '**Talitha Koum**' - **Young Woman, Stand Up**. They challenge the young people of the world to carry our faith, which has lasted for two thousand years, into this new Millennium.







Tue	1	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Chestnut Tree House
Thu	3		Day of Prayer
Fri	4	2.00pm	Kestro. Pencil & Paper Games
	6	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
Thu	10	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Fri	11	2.00pm	Kestro. AGM
	13	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
** Last day for March Chronicle material			
Tue	15	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Help the Aged
Fri	18	2.00pm	Kestro. Penguins & Icebergs
	20	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion
Thu	24	7.30pm	Church Meeting
Fri	25	2.00pm	Kestro Club. Beetle Game
	27	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
** March Chronicle available today			
Tue	29	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Worthing Women's Aid

*
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*

Spring is coming
Have you noticed the crocuses coming up in the church grounds?
*
*
*



Thur	2		Day of Prayer	
Fri	3	2.00pm	Kestro Club. 'Worthing as it was'	
Sat	4		Sussex West Children's Leaders Day Conference at Goring	
	5	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Early Morning Holy Communion Family Worship with Holy Communion CTG Service St Richard's	
Thu	9	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting	8th March. Ash Wednesday
Fri	10	2.00pm	Kestro Club. Painting & colouring	
	12	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Early Morning Holy Communion Family Worship Evening Worship	1st Sunday in Lent
Tue	14	2.30pm	Women's Guild. 'Tales from the Bench' Mrs Sylvia Parkinson	
Fri	17	2.00pm	Kestro Club. Diving talk	
	19	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Early Morning Holy Communion Family Worship Evening Worship with Holy Communion	
			** Last day for April Chronicle material	
	26	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Early Morning Holy Communion Family Worship Evening Worship	
			** British Summer Time begins.	
Tue	28	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Psalm 104, slides & music. Dr Ian Wyatt	
Wed	29	10.15am	District Women's Panel	
Thu	30	7.30pm	Church Meeting	



Looking ahead

Sunday 2nd April	Mothering Sunday
Sunday 16th April	Palm Sunday
Sunday 23rd April	Easter Day
Sunday 14th May	Junior Church Anniversary Start of Christian Aid Week



The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

1930—1939

West Worthing - During the early 1930's the district west of Grand Avenue was rapidly changing. Already in Reigate Road houses were being built; houses had also been erected in Rose Walk, Pembroke and Brooklyn Avenues, and a few shops had also been built in Goring Road. Along the Goring Road (then called Goring Lane) from Wallace Avenue to St Mary's Church there still remained a beautiful unmade up country lane.

The booklet, 'Twixt Downs and Sea' reports that a large Estate Agent's board invited folk to "Come and live in this Old World Lane". Apparently the farm building on the right in the photograph marks the spot which is now the Goring Road/Shafesbury Avenue junction with traffic lights !.



Shelley Road Congregational Church was the nearest church (of that denomination) to Goring, and moves were already under way by Shelley Road and

the **Sussex Congregational Union** to erect a new church in Sompting (now Sompting URC) to serve the needs of a non-conformist church in the Sompting and Cokeham area.

There were no plans at that time to build a new church to serve the people moving into the Goring area until a member of Shelley Road Congregational Church wrote to the Deacons -

Deacon's Meeting Minutes Monday 22
January 1934

"Mr Barratt of Pevensey Road West Worthing having written to complain of the distance of a Congregational Church from his place of residence, and to suggest that the matter of church extension might receive attention, it was

agreed (in motion of Miss Mancroft, seconded by Mr Aldrich) that the Secretary, together with messrs Summers & Thompson be asked to explore the district west of Wallace Avenue with a view to finding a possible site and to report to the next Deacon's Meeting."

A Church Extension Sub Committee was set up to explore the possibilities of finding a suitable site for a new church building and it was during 1936 that they presented their report. They reported that a plot of land, known as Field Place Estate had been offered to them at very advantageous terms. A bridge over the railway line had recently been built and a wide road was being constructed between the Littlehampton Road and Shatesbury Avenue. The Southern Railway were proposing a new station to serve the ever increasing population. The committee suggest that not less than 3/4 acre site be secured, this was to give sufficient space for the erection of a Church Hall, Church, car parking and when the time was ripe also a Manse. The Church should have a seating capacity of 250. Cost of the building £2400 including furnishing. Cost of land £1600. In the early part of 1937, the Diaconate called for a Special Church Meeting -

WORTHING CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Shelley Road.

29th April 1937.

To the Members of the Church and
Congregation.

Dear Fellow-Members,

A Special Church Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 6th, at 7.30 p.m. to consider the recommendation of the Diaconate to purchase a plot of land for Church Extension in the West Worthing area.

We hope that you will treat this as an urgent appeal and be present, and that you will give all the enthusiasm and support in your power to enable it possible for our Church to fulfil the obligation which we feel is ours to build a church in this area, where facilities for worship are totally inadequate and the need is exceptionally great.

With this letter is enclosed a plan of the site which we hope you will be able to examine before the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

W. McLEOD GIRDWOOD, Minister.
D. J. MALIN, Secretary.



Church Extension.

RECENTLY every member of the church and congregation, as well as every householder residing west of Grand Avenue and south of Littlehampton Road, has received a leaflet drawing attention to our effort to provide a Congregational Church in West Worthing.

The need for a church in this growing part of Worthing is very evident and calls for early attention.

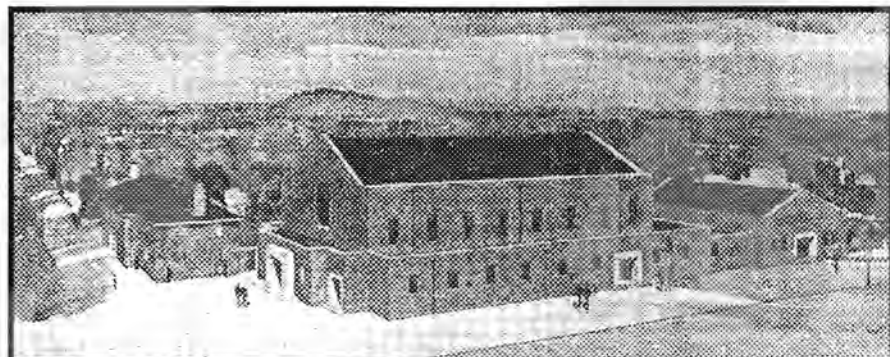
We have secured a site in Barrington Road at the foot of the new bridge in Shaftesbury Avenue and are under an obligation to complete the purchase early in October next and for this a substantial sum is required.

Many of our members have already contributed to this fund and to these we would

tender our grateful thanks, others have been waiting and to these we would say you have a wonderful opportunity of making it possible to start this new church now.

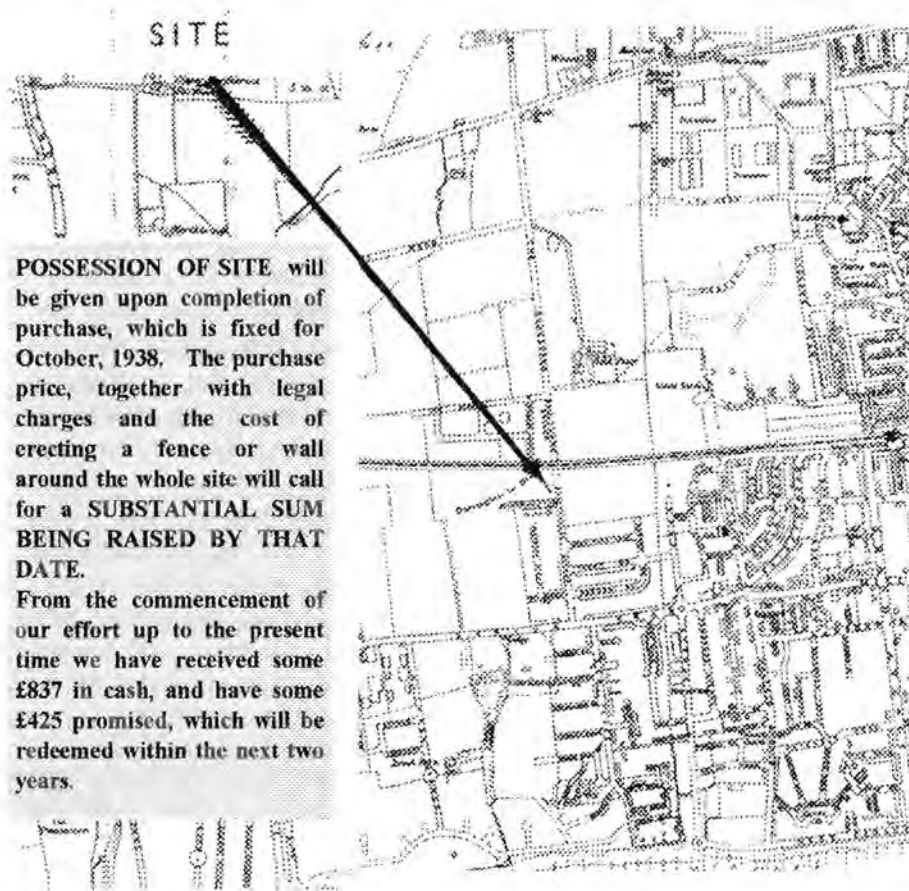
The possibilities in West Worthing are immense and the opportunity for real service great. The quicker the funds come in the quicker the work can commence.

Will you help?



The proposed new building as shown in an insert to 'Outlook' in April 1938

THE WORTHING CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH has for some years past been seeking a suitable site in South-West Worthing, upon which a Congregational Church might be erected. After many delays and disappointments a site has been secured in Barrington Road, at the foot of the new bridge in Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring Road.



POSSESSION OF SITE will be given upon completion of purchase, which is fixed for October, 1938. The purchase price, together with legal charges and the cost of erecting a fence or wall around the whole site will call for a **SUBSTANTIAL SUM BEING RAISED BY THAT DATE.**

From the commencement of our effort up to the present time we have received some £837 in cash, and have some £425 promised, which will be redeemed within the next two years.

OUR IMMEDIATE AIM is to complete the purchase of the site, to erect a Church Hall as quickly as possible and to form a local Church. At a later date and as funds permit the Church will be erected and ultimately the Manse.

Thank you to the West Sussex records Office in Chichester and to Shelley Road URC for their help in supplying much of the above information.

Next month in *The CHRONICLE* - the 1940's

Church reaches out for Jesus

Peter Anderson, minister at East Claremont Congregational Church in Cape Town, South Africa, reports on his congregation's activities.

"The Khanyisile homes started about six or seven years ago to care for mentally or physically disabled children while their mothers went to work. A newspaper article about the homes prompted the East Claremont Church to visit the local township and see what was being done.

"We began by giving food and clothing. A Baptist church and the local business community then helped us build a new facility where the children could stay overnight. It was good to be able to share Jesus with the children and staff, but it was eventually time for us to move on to another project.

"The Philipi farming area is 10 kilometres from our church and on the border of the winelands.

The drop system is still in force, which means that farmers pay their workers

partly with bottles of wine, instead of cash only. Many children are born with severe brain damage because their parents drink so much alcohol.

"The Liefdespoort project, which means 'loving haven', looks after these children in a community hall. When we visited them, they had nothing, not even proper clothes. We raised money for them to have one good meal a day, and we equipped and carpeted the place. We now pay one of our church members to oversee the project. We visit personally and share the Good News of Jesus with children and staff and they entertain us with chorus singing in return. The Methodists help too. We also help with their projects, such as by visiting and praying for a crèche for children from squatter houses - a project supported by the Presbyterian Church of Korea.

"A big lesson we have learnt is that our outreach for Jesus should involve other churches."

From 'Inside Out'

**FEBBA.
RADIO**
On Air with the Good News

Feba Mailings Dates

Tuesday 1st February—Wednesday 2nd February
Tuesday 7th March—Thursday 9th March
Tuesday 2nd May—Wednesday 3rd May

The Disease

Leprosy is caused by a germ, called *Mycobacterium leprae*, which affects nerves, skin, eyes and nose. It reproduces slowly, and its effects may only be visible two to 10 years after a person is first infected. Often, the hands and feet will start to claw as the disease affects the tendons. Although the main method of spreading it is thought to be by coughing or sneezing, over 95% of people are naturally immune to it. Those who catch it can be treated with a course of tablets called multidrug therapy. Patients are no longer infectious within a few days and are fully cured within six months to two years. Early treatment is key to avoid permanent deformity.

From Leprosy Mission for CWM

Reconciliation in Rwanda

"The Bible message is relevant as we start the new millennium because, unlike any other country in the world, Rwanda has experienced bitter grievances during the last three decades. Hatred, discrimination, manslaughter and wars have been the recurring events, with the 1994 genocide the climax of all these evils. Everybody is now looking for a better, peaceful and united Rwanda. I believe this is only possible when there is real repentance and true reconciliation among Banyarwanda. Many church leaders are determined to put much emphasis on biblical teachings rather than mere preaching and many souls are being harvested to the Lord. Keep on praying for Rwanda."

From 'World in Action'

Drought hits Ethiopia

A severe drought has devastated crops in several parts of Ethiopia. Christian Aid has sent £100,000 to buy supplementary food for children in Konso and has contributed a further £150,000 to an ecumenical appeal for all drought-affected areas. "Konso is a region dependent on the short belg rains which fall in February and March," reports Christian Aid's Sophia Mwangi. "The harvest, which was due in July, failed. Most of Ethiopia, however, depends on the main *meher* rains which fall from June to September; they have come very late this year and it is still unclear whether there will be a harvest at the end of the year."

The shortage nationally is severe. The estimated food aid needed for Ethiopia until mid-2000 is 600,000 tonnes - 200,000 tonnes of which are yet to be pledged by the international community.

From Christian Aid News



Can you fill this space ?

*Next month, please write in to the Editor
with items of news,
Photographs & illustrations,
events for the diary pages,
committee reports,
comings and goings,
Etc, etc ...*

Member's Handbooks

Additional copies of Member's Handbooks are always available at 50p each by request even though there may not be any on the table at the back of the Church. So, if you haven't got a copy yet or you would like another, please speak to Graham Redman.

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'B or C'

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Robber released in preference to Jesus.
Matt 27 | 6 High Priest before whom Jesus stood
trial. Matt 26, Luke 3, John 18 |
| 2 A Levite from Cyprus. Acts 4 | 7 One of the two who met the risen Jesus
on the road to Emmaus. Luke 24 |
| 3 Eldest son of Adam & Eve who killed
his brother Abel. Gen 4 | 8 Blind man healed by Jesus. Mark 10 |
| 4 Emperor of Rome. Luke 2/Acts 11 | 9 Son of Ham. Gen 9 |
| 5 Landowner of Bethlehem who became
Ruth's husband. Ruth 2 | 10 One of the 12 Apostles. Matt 10 |

Answers: -

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|---------|--------------------|---------|-------------|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1. Barabbas | 2. Barnabas | 3. Cain | 4. Caesar/Claudius | 5. Boaz | 6. Caiaphas | 7. Cleopas | 8. Bartimaeus | 9. Canaan | 10. Bartholomew |
|-------------|-------------|---------|--------------------|---------|-------------|------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club.

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The March edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 27th February. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 13th February.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

March 2000

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

A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry

In this Issue :
a look at the 1940's
and the first Chronicle

A letter from Synod

Provincial
Week-end



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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 Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
 Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

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 Telephone: 01903 506452

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
 51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
 Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Worship

- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- GAS (God's Appreciation Society)
- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship

- with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month.
- Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month.

Weekday Activities


Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 541

March 2000

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- Our Church -**
- 4 Church Family Committee
 Working Party Day - House & Fabric Committee
- 5 Junior Church 'Bring and Buy'
- 6 Social Events for the year
- 7 **Sussex West Report**
- Southern Synod -**
- 8 Provincial Week-end
- 9 Where is the Ministry going ?
- 10,11 **for your Diary** 
- 12 **Women's Guild, Rowland Singers, Christian Aid Week**
- 13-17 **The Story of Goring URC, this month the 1940's.**
- 18-19 **World Church & Mission. News from Africa & China.**
- 20 **Can you name these people ?**



Dear friends,

If you happen to be reading this on the first Sunday in March you are reading it in the last Sunday in Epiphany. At last we can leave Christmas behind! Time moves relentlessly on! The second Sunday in March is the first Sunday in Lent so now we can start looking forward to Easter, chocolate eggs, warmer days, and the resurrection of Jesus.

Leaving the past behind and moving on is what we are encouraged to do all the time.

A traffic warden in Germany apparently used the following tactics to encourage his customers to move on and transgress no more! Instead of giving offenders a parking ticket he would wait for the owner to return and recite Psalm 88, which is all about the wrath of God, then he made them kneel down and sing a hymn with him. His bosses refused to stop him, claiming that his methods were most effective, and as a result of his actions a dramatic drop in illegal parking had been noticed. One former offender is reported commenting that 'I always park in the multi-story now!' True story or urban myth I know not, but it certainly encouraged the population of this town to move on to a proper parking place.

Moving on is what Moses did on Mount Sinai {the holy mountain see Exodus ch 3 v 1 - 17}. Here he is where he had an encounter with God. Here was in a place of solitude, the very nature of which probably meant that it was not where Moses would have chosen to be at that time, but it was the place that God used to speak to him. Amid our busyness and activity finding a place of quiet and solitude is a matter of our own choice, but we do have to find it. Such quiet times will ensure that we remain useful to God, as we maintain firm foundations in our Christian lives. Lent is a time when we are encouraged to take time out and listen to God speak to us. Take time to move on and be alone with God.

The mountain was also for Moses a place of revelation. The burning bush must have been quite a sight, and it was here that God addressed Moses by name. Moses in response took off his shoes acknowledging the presence of God in that place. When God calls you by name how do you respond?

The mountain for Moses was also a place of commissioning. For it was here that God gave Moses his task which eventually took the rest of his life to fulfil. Here Moses accepted God's commission for him and moved on. It was a commission that was to change the course of his life for ever! Are you ready to respond to God this Lent and move on even if it too changes the course of your life for ever?

Norman Croft

Pastoral News

Handbook Amendment

Page 10

Gaynor & Alan Anderson Easey
Telephone Number add, 539868

Page 1

Church Secretary,
Fax Number change to 01903 260867

Page 13

Mr R (Bob) Edwards died on 1st Feb 00.

Bob was organist and Choir Master here for approximately ten years.

We pray for his wife, Doris, at this difficult time for her. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted"

Prayer Day Vigil

I want to say how much I appreciated the Prayer Day Vigil. I had to call a doctor to my mother on Boxing Day for a very bad leg, then on the Tuesday after Christmas I hurt my back and was generally feeling low. It was a help to know that my name along with many others was mentioned during the Day of Prayer and that those people in the

church praying were quite unaware of my needs—it left me with peace. Later on in the day I went along to the church to pray for others. I am glad to say that my mother's leg is improving and my back too ! Thank you Robin for arranging the Vigil—it meant so much to me, this year in particular. I wanted to share that with you all, God bless,

Janet Dean

Thank you

Thank you for the flowers given to me a little while ago, to mark the birth of my first grandchild, Isla Jane. Amanda and I were both so pleased.

Audrey Stewart

Best Wishes

Norman & Alma Prattent send their love and best wishes from Nottingham to all of their friends at Goring.

Women's World Day of Prayer

The Christian women of Indonesia invite you to join them in prayer on - Friday 3rd March 2000



3pm St Mary's C of E, Goring.

Speaker: Irene Tuley

8pm St Michaels RC, High Salvington.

Speaker: Anna Cooke

Church Family Committee

Last year in November a group of us who are involved in the children's work here at Goring went on a training weekend. We were all challenged in our attitudes and approach to the children we work with, and have tried to put what we learned into practice.

We long to reach out to those children, young people and their families who do not feel able to come on a Sunday but are more comfortable coming to a weekday activity.

This requires people to be willing to take up the challenge amongst our young people.

We currently have an urgent need for:-

- A leader for the Ark (Parent and Toddler Group)
- A leader for the Monday Club (5-7yr olds)
- Another teacher for the 8-10yr olds on a Sunday Morning.

From September we will need people to run a midweek group for 8-10yr olds.

Please give these matters your prayerful consideration remembering Jesus' words "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these"

May we not fail those children we seek to reach in Jesus' name.

If you require any further information or want an informal 'no strings attached' chat please contact me.

Denise Elliott

Working Party Day House & Fabric Committee

There will be a working party day on Saturday 8th April from 9.15am onwards.

Garden maintenance, painting, cleaning gullies, markings on driveway, storage, graffiti removal, etc. All offers of help will be much appreciated

Colin Nodes



£104.65 was raised on Saturday 19th February for the 'Blue Peter New life Appeal', by the Young People and Children of Junior Church.

More than 50 people attended the Bring & Buy Sale. Junior Church and GAS thank those who helped to make the afternoon a success.



The appeal helps to buy equipment like travelling incubators for premature babies.



Social Events for the year

Thank you to all those who came to the meeting to plan the year's forthcoming events.

It was good to be able to pool our ideas and I hope that every one will be able to find an enjoyable activity or two !

Diaries at the ready:-

March

Saturday 18th. Jumble Sale.

Help needed. Contact Wilf Rhodes or Graham Redman. See display advertisement on page 12.

May

Monday 1st. (Bank Holiday) Church Ramble.

Further information to follow.

Saturday 13th. 2pm

Table Sale (Indoor Carboot).

If you do not wish to sell for yourself, please donate Bric-a-bac to the Church who will have a table for Church Funds.

July

Friday 7th

Junior Church Barbecue

on the green at the end of Aldsworth Avenue. Please note change from usual Saturday arrangement. Further information to follow.

Sunday 16th.

CTG Praise 2000 service
- on the beach green.

August

Friday 4th Diamond Jubilee of our church, this is the actual date when 60yrs ago the first service was held at Elm Grove School. Further information as and when final decisions are made.

September

Saturday/Sunday 23rd-24th Harvest Week-end

Sunday 30th - Sunday October 1st
We hope to celebrate our Jubilee at this time—We are still planning !!

October

Saturday 21st 7.30pm
Worthing Philharmonic Choir are giving a Millennium Concert in church on this evening. Please make a firm note of this event. I'm sure it will be wonderful.

November

Saturday 25th Christmas Fair.
Theme etc to be decided.

January

Saturday 6th Twelfth Night Party.

Phew! I hope you've got your breath back! There will be a coffee morning or two during the course of the year, possibly in people's homes but dates have yet to be fixed.

Do phone me about any of the above if there is a query.

Doreen Norris

SUSSEX WEST DISTRICT REPORT

January 12th at Shelley Road URC

The meeting was opened with devotions led by Rev Margaret Ashby

Welcome to Rev. David Helyar, and Rev. Ian Cramb from Steyne Gardens who is the Ecumenical Officer for West Sussex. The meeting remembered and gave thanks for the life of Rev. Ron Christopher. Rev. Peter Elliott is replacing Rev. Roy Parkington as the District Rep. On the Synod Church & Society Committee.

Executive Council Report

Anyone interested in representing the District on the Synod Racial Advocacy Committee, dealing with Multi-Racial Multi-Faith issues, please contact Desmond Curry.

Resolution 34 was put to Council and accepted by 21 votes to 7.

Pastoral Care Committee

The vacancy at Littlehampton UM was discussed, and suggestions made for an Interim Moderator there. There is difficulty in providing pastoral oversight for the churches in the Chichester Harbour area. Prayers were requested for Revs. Peter Goodchild & Ray Whittle in sickness. Rev Ken Lynch celebrates 25 years of ministry. Please continue to pray for all involved in aspects of ministry within this District.

Property & Finance

Telscombe Cliffs is installing new toilet facilities for the Disabled.

District Treasures were asked to attend the Consultation in February "Matching Dreams with Resources", called by the National Resource Planning Advisory Group. (NRPAG). A paper is available.

Ecumenical Report

Districts are urged to encourage all churches to be committed to a local Churches Together

and wherever possible plan together and share resources for mission in accordance with the 'Five Marks of Mission'.

1. To proclaim the Good news of the Kingdom
2. To Teach, Baptise, and Nurture New Believers
3. To Respond to Human Need in Loving Service
4. To Seek to Transform Unjust Structures of society
5. To Strive to Safeguard the Integrity of Creation. To Sustain and Renew the Life of the Earth.

Further detailed report from your District Rep.

Evangelism Report

Over 500 people visited the Lewes Road "Bethlehem Re-visited" Event before Christmas. To be repeated.

District Mission Enablers: Linda Ashford has been appointed to cover Medway & Canterbury Districts, another will be appointed for Wimbledon & Sussex West. Please pray that the right person is appointed. Sompting is to begin another Alpha course early in 2000.

District Youth Committee

Anyone interested in helping district with its Youth & Children's work is invited to an "enquirer's morning" at West Wickham URC on Sat April 15th, 10.00—12.30 pm. Names to Desmond Curry.

A Day Conference for Leaders of the under 5s is to be held at Goring URC on Sat March 4th. led by Margaret Collins.

The July weekend (7th-9th) is arranged for the 11s and over, with 8th being for the 6-11s at Coldwaltham.

November 4th Howard Nurden will lead a

(Continued on page 12)

Provincial Weekend**11-13th February**

On Friday afternoon we set off on our journey to Herne Bay arriving there at approximately 6pm. We just had time to find our rooms and unpack before it was time for supper.

That evening we were asked to share our 'memories and dreams' for the URC. It was noted that the churches which are growing are those that have prayer as a priority. We were also reminded that now is a gift from God - that's why its called the present.

Saturday morning the children and adults had their own individual activities. We learnt more about our treasures from the past by hearing again our United Reformed Church history and its roots.

After lunch we had some free time which we spent by going to look at the sea (the North Sea !). When we returned, we thought about our treasures we have in the present and Rev David Helyar gave us a quiz about the URC - which will appear in the April Chronicle. We then shared what we find good and also not so good about our churches and the URC today.

Saturday evening there was a concert by local musicians which included some songs to sing along with.

Sunday morning we thought about the future of the URC and our role in it. We did an exercise which was called 'How does your garden grow?' We had to choose from being, a tree, grass, flowers, weeds, or fruit and vegetables. Then in our small groups we discussed the good and bad qualities of those and related them to ourselves in our churches. The trees represented the leaders; flowers, those who have spurts of doing big projects well; grass, those who work quietly in the background; fruit and veg: the teachers; weeds, those who keep on persistently nagging to make sure things are done. All these qualities are needed in our church and we should allow our qualities to come out.

History is not just in the past, its being made now. We continued by quietly individually describing our lives in pictures rather than words to consider where we've come from and where we hope to go in the future. We finished this session by each writing down a prayer or poem starting with the words 'I see my future before me...'

After lunch we had a communion service during which the children shared what they had been doing in their group during the weekend, before returning home tired but with lots to think about.

Carol, Denise & Nicholls family

Where is ministry going?

There are two possible answers to the above question, both containing elements of truth. One is that ministry continues to go into decline. The other is that ministry is moving in new and exciting directions.

At the 1999 General Assembly, the United Reformed Church welcomed the mission strategy, **"Growing Up"**. It is an honest strategy document which begins by facing the decline in the number of members and ministers within our Church as well as within other Christian Churches. It challenges us to "stop brooding over days gone by" (Isaiah 43) and to use all our present resources to renew our mission and to plan for growth.

Such a challenge requires us to use our stipendiary ministers to best effect in the service of Jesus Christ. This inevitably means change. Former patterns of deploying ministers are no longer viable. But what do we mean by **deployment**? Last autumn a small working group from Southern Province was commissioned to consider **"Patterns of Deployment"** - a report which was then presented to and received by the October Synod. Your church has a copy of this report.

By **deployment** is meant the way in which we employ throughout the United Reformed Church all those stipendiary ministers who are open to receive a call from a local pastorate. There are also, of course, ministers who serve the Church other than in a local situation. In addition, we enjoy a rich diversity of ministry provided by non-stipendiary ministers, local lay leaders, lay preachers and

elders - plus every church member!

It is together that we exercise a ministry of the whole people of God.

The stipendiary minister, however, still remains a key, albeit scarce resource, and it is the view of most church members that "every church ought to have one!" That is not possible. With the decline in the number of ministers available, new ways have to be found of ensuring that ministers are effectively deployed across the whole Church. Nationally, we know with some accuracy how many ministers are available between now and 2005. Those figures take into account those retiring and those who will enter ministry after training.

Using a formula based on the number of churches, the number of members, and the population figure, each Synod is offered a target number of ministers. In turn, using the same formula, Districts are allocated a target number, with the responsibility of determining where those ministers shall be deployed. The present targets are set down in the Synod report **"Patterns of Deployment"**, to which we will return next month.

This article is the first of three for insertion in church magazines. Next month we shall consider "Planning a way forward" and, in May, "How does your church respond?" Meanwhile, please pray that, by the grace of God, we may turn problems into opportunities, and difficulties into challenges.

- From the office of The Southern Synod

For your Diary in 2000...



Thur 2 From 7.30am Day of Prayer

Fri 3 2.00pm Kestro Club. 'Worthing as it was'
 3.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer at St Mary's C of E, Goring
 8.00pm - - - at St Michael's RC, High Salvington



Sat 4 Sussex West Children's Leaders Day Conference at Goring

Sun 5 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship with Holy Communion - Tearfund Sunday
 6.00pm CTG Service St Richard's

8th March. Ash Wednesday

Thu 9 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Fri 10 2.00pm Kestro Club. Painting & colouring

Sun 12 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship
 6.00pm Evening Worship

1st Sunday in Lent

Tue 14 2.30pm Women's Guild. 'Tales from the Bench' Mrs Sylvia Parkinson

Fri 17 2.00pm Kestro Club. Diving talk

Sat 18 2.00pm Jumble Sale in Church Hall. (see page 12)

Sun 19 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship
 6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

** Last day for April Chronicle material

Thu 23 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sun 26 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship
 6.00pm Evening Worship

** British Summer Time begins.

Tue 28 2.30pm Women's Guild. Psalm 104, slides & music. Dr Ian Wyatt

Wed 29 10.15am District Women's Panel

For your Diary in 2000...



Sat 1 9.30am-5.00pm Walk thru the Bible. Hove Central URC



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 6 From 7.30am Day of Prayer

Sat 8 From 9.15am Working Party Day (see page 4)



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 11 2.30pm Women's Guild

Wed 12 7.30pm Rowland Singers (see page 13 and April Chronicle)

Thu 13 7.30pm Elders' Meeting



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship **** Last day for May Chronicle material**

Thu 20 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Communion

Fri 21 10.30am Good Friday Service

Sat 22 2.00pm Passion Play starting at English Martyrs, via Bury Drive to St Mary's Church Hall, Goring. No tickets required, just come along.

Easter Day



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship 'Team Praise'

Thu 27 7.30pm Church Meeting



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Bank Holiday Monday 1st May
Church Ramble



Looking ahead

Sunday 14th May - • Junior Church Anniversary
• Start of Christian Aid Week



Jumble Sale

Saturday 18th March

2.00pm

In the Church Hall

If you can help in any of the following ways, please speak to Wilfred Rhodes or Graham Redman :-

- By giving jumble- telephone either of the above if help with collection is required, but kindly do not leave jumble on stage or in the hall until after 7pm on Friday 17th.
- Collecting jumble
- Helping to sort on the Saturday Morning, the 18th from 9am.
- Helping with selling during the afternoon - its good fun really !
- Clearing and bagging up of unsold jumble & taking to 'dump'.
- Making tea & coffee for the helpers.

(Continued from page 7)

SUFFER WEST Report

day for all Leaders working with Children & Young People at Sompting. Howard would be greatly helped in his work if there were more helpers in this field.

Correspondence

Following a letter from David Helyar, deployment figures were put to the meeting, based on projected figures to the year 2005. There was some discussion, and the meeting

agreed to accept them. There is to be an enquirers conference at Brighthelm on 20th May 9.30 am - 5.00 pm. We are encouraged to develop Lay Leaders.

Full notes and District papers available from your District Representative: Hilary Redman

The date of the next meeting: March 30th at Brighthelm.

Will you join me there? Hilary

Women's Guild

On the 18th January the subject for our meeting was 'Open all Hours'. We wondered whether Ronnie Barker would make an appearance, but no, it was Mr Steve Harris. He told us about the shop owned by his father in early 1930 – rather like the one in the television series. In a hilarious talk he took us back to our young days when the little corner shops were in existence. How the sweets were put into hand made cone shaped bags and tea sold by the two ounces as well as the lard, margarine and butter. It was an unusual meeting which we all enjoyed.

On the 1st February - quite a different subject was on our programme -

Lesley Ann Loyd, from St. Barnabas, brought us news of the Hospice for children, which is being planned to cover our area. The site has been obtained and now it is a case of planning permission being granted. Five million pounds will be needed for this project. Donations from the public are being received at the local Herald office. 'The Chestnut Tree House' is the Guild's project this year and at the meeting there was a spontaneous collection which, to the delight of our President, Treasurer and members, amounted to £106.03. Thanks to all,, for their generosity.

Joan Burrage

Rowland Singers Easter Concert



The Rowland Singers are giving their Easter Concert in the Church on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm. The main work is "Requiem" by John Rutter and the rest of the programme consists of well known anthems. Please note the date. Further details in the April Chronicle.

Sheila Gooderham

CHRISTIAN AID APPEAL WEEK 2000

Christian Aid Week this year will be from Sunday 14th May to Saturday 20th May, when it is hoped that our Church will be able to participate as usual in the house-to-house collection in the roads near to the Church.

In recent years we have never been able to visit all the roads allocated to us, and it would be nice to have a larger army

of collectors to deal with the task.

The work usually involves two or three evenings that week, and this is an advance notice so that anyone who is willing to help can reserve the dates. There will be a list on the vestibule notice board during April so that volunteers can put down their names.

Ian Hennell

The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

Stone Laying Although a date for the stone laying ceremony was actually fixed for November 1939 the complete building programme was very much delayed by the outbreak of the Second World War, in fact operations had to be abandoned for the time being.

Elm Grove School

This tragic delay in the building programme was not enough to deter those members of Shelley Road Congregation from the vision of starting a new church in the West Worthing / Goring area, and so it was on the 4th August 1940 that 37 friends attended the first morning service at Elm Grove School Hall. 15 attended the evening service.

Mr W H Young of Lancing and
Chairman of the Shelley Road
Extension Sub Committee

conducted both morning and evening services. The offertory for the day amounted to £2 8s 0d (£2.40). A week or so later the first Communion service was celebrated.

In March 1942 Rev Morris Bold was called to be the first Minister at the new church, albeit for a short time of 15 months only—his services were never-the-less much appreciated. Under his leadership, a “House of Quiet” at 3 Goring Road (now Iceland) was opened for servicemen. One of the upper rooms was converted into a little Chapel with a table draped in a blue

velvet, adorned by a brass cross, and on the wall, a small picture of "The Last Supper". Downstairs, a rest room and canteen facilities for the needs of the servicemen of the district. The "House of Quiet" had to be closed on 27th January 1943 as the Army required removal of all furniture, and the use of its rooms.

The Herald, Friday, August 2 1940 :-

Goring Free Church

ALL Free Churchmen are asked to note that Goring Free Church services are being held every Sunday in Elm Grove School.

It had been hoped that the building of the new church would have been well in hand by this time, but the war intervened, and the project has been indefinitely postponed.

Minutes of a meeting of the Committee
of the League held at Balliol House, on
High-street, St. John's 1940 at 7 pm

Mr. Ad. Lange Mr. B. Lange Mr. C. Lange Mr. D. Lange
 Mr. E. Lange Mr. F. Lange Mr. G. Lange Mr. H. Lange

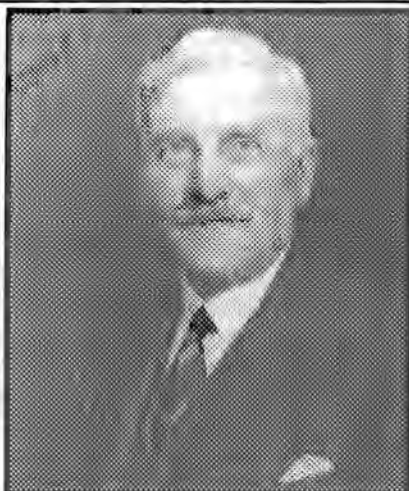
It was unanimously decided to appoint Mr. [unclear] as Chairman. [unclear] therefore took the

It was suggested that the formation of Drawing Society
might be held at the college in the evening. The following was the

1. 1941 - 1942 - 1943 - 1944 - 1945 - 1946 - 1947 - 1948 - 1949 - 1950 - 1951 - 1952 - 1953 - 1954 - 1955 - 1956 - 1957 - 1958 - 1959 - 1960 - 1961 - 1962 - 1963 - 1964 - 1965 - 1966 - 1967 - 1968 - 1969 - 1970 - 1971 - 1972 - 1973 - 1974 - 1975 - 1976 - 1977 - 1978 - 1979 - 1980 - 1981 - 1982 - 1983 - 1984 - 1985 - 1986 - 1987 - 1988 - 1989 - 1990 - 1991 - 1992 - 1993 - 1994 - 1995 - 1996 - 1997 - 1998 - 1999 - 2000 - 2001 - 2002 - 2003 - 2004 - 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009 - 2010 - 2011 - 2012 - 2013 - 2014 - 2015 - 2016 - 2017 - 2018 - 2019 - 2020 - 2021 - 2022 - 2023 - 2024 - 2025 - 2026 - 2027 - 2028 - 2029 - 2030 - 2031 - 2032 - 2033 - 2034 - 2035 - 2036 - 2037 - 2038 - 2039 - 2040 - 2041 - 2042 - 2043 - 2044 - 2045 - 2046 - 2047 - 2048 - 2049 - 2050 - 2051 - 2052 - 2053 - 2054 - 2055 - 2056 - 2057 - 2058 - 2059 - 2060 - 2061 - 2062 - 2063 - 2064 - 2065 - 2066 - 2067 - 2068 - 2069 - 2070 - 2071 - 2072 - 2073 - 2074 - 2075 - 2076 - 2077 - 2078 - 2079 - 2080 - 2081 - 2082 - 2083 - 2084 - 2085 - 2086 - 2087 - 2088 - 2089 - 2090 - 2091 - 2092 - 2093 - 2094 - 2095 - 2096 - 2097 - 2098 - 2099 - 2100 - 2101 - 2102 - 2103 - 2104 - 2105 - 2106 - 2107 - 2108 - 2109 - 2110 - 2111 - 2112 - 2113 - 2114 - 2115 - 2116 - 2117 - 2118 - 2119 - 2120 - 2121 - 2122 - 2123 - 2124 - 2125 - 2126 - 2127 - 2128 - 2129 - 2130 - 2131 - 2132 - 2133 - 2134 - 2135 - 2136 - 2137 - 2138 - 2139 - 2140 - 2141 - 2142 - 2143 - 2144 - 2145 - 2146 - 2147 - 2148 - 2149 - 2150 - 2151 - 2152 - 2153 - 2154 - 2155 - 2156 - 2157 - 2158 - 2159 - 2160 - 2161 - 2162 - 2163 - 2164 - 2165 - 2166 - 2167 - 2168 - 2169 - 2170 - 2171 - 2172 - 2173 - 2174 - 2175 - 2176 - 2177 - 2178 - 2179 - 2180 - 2181 - 2182 - 2183 - 2184 - 2185 - 2186 - 2187 - 2188 - 2189 - 2190 - 2191 - 2192 - 2193 - 2194 - 2195 - 2196 - 2197 - 2198 - 2199 - 2200 - 2201 - 2202 - 2203 - 2204 - 2205 - 2206 - 2207 - 2208 - 2209 - 2210 - 2211 - 2212 - 2213 - 2214 - 2215 - 2216 - 2217 - 2218 - 2219 - 2220 - 2221 - 2222 - 2223 - 2224 - 2225 - 2226 - 2227 - 2228 - 2229 - 2230 - 2231 - 2232 - 2233 - 2234 - 2235 - 2236 - 2237 - 2238 - 2239 - 2240 - 2241 - 2242 - 2243 - 2244 - 2245 - 2246 - 2247 - 2248 - 2249 - 2250 - 2251 - 2252 - 2253 - 2254 - 2255 - 2256 - 2257 - 2258 - 2259 - 2260 - 2261 - 2262 - 2263 - 2264 - 2265 - 2266 - 2267 - 2268 - 2269 - 2270 - 2271 - 2272 - 2273 - 2274 - 2275 - 2276 - 2277 - 2278 - 2279 - 2280 - 2281 - 2282 - 2283 - 2284 - 2285 - 2286 - 2287 - 2288 - 2289 - 2290 - 2291 - 2292 - 2293 - 2294 - 2295 - 2296 - 2297 - 2298 - 2299 - 2300 - 2301 - 2302 - 2303 - 2304 - 2305 - 2306 - 2307 - 2308 - 2309 - 2310 - 2311 - 2312</

Ministry of Rev F J H Humphrey

Following Rev Morris Bold's ministry, Rev Humphrey was called to Elm Grove in 1942 and became minister at Goring until 1947. He was a much loved man and was held in high regard by the whole church and occupied an affectionate place in the hearts of all people whom he came in contact with. During his ministry at Goring, a church building fund was started, Ladies Working Party established, a class for the 'little ones' under the leadership of Mrs Humphrey's sister, a branch of the Bible Reading Fellowship was started and an issue of a News Sheet was introduced. Mr A J Rule came to the church from Sheerness and proved to be richly endowed with a more than usual radiant personality—he was a steward—took a very active role in the running of the Management Committee—became Secretary. Mr E W West (Bill West's uncle—see article on following page) was Treasurer at that time.



Rev F J H Humphrey

The First Chronicle.

At a meeting of the Committee of Management on the 17th April 1944 the Secretary, Mr A J Rule raised the question as to the issue of a news sheet on alternative months to Shelley Road's "Outlook" magazine. The meeting asked

Mr Rule to undertake the work of its preparation and publishing and during the following meeting in July of that year he reported that 150 copies of the 1st number of the "Elm Grove Chronicle" had been issued at a cost of 18/6 (92½p).

It was decided not to make any charge.

The beginning of the 'ELM GROVE CHRONICLE' - Summer 1944

ELM GROVE CHRONICLE (Goring Congregational Church)

MINISTER'S MESSAGE. It is hoped that the occasional appearance of the Elm Grove Chronicle may serve to stimulate interest, and strengthen fellowship. If we fail to discover much latent literary ability, we shall nevertheless welcome contributions which have news value about the Kingdom of God. In our congregation at Elm Grove we have members of various Christian Churches, but we are one in seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

A new Congregational Church

It was on Saturday 14th August at 6pm that a meeting was held in the Elm Grove School for the purpose of formally constituting the fellowship as a Congregational Church. Rev Maxwell Janes (Moderator of the Southern Province), Rev Bernard Spaul (Minister Shelley Rd) and other ministers who had helped with past services.

"... the address of the Moderator and the prayer of the Minister of our Mother Church, led up most fittingly to the giving of the right hand of welcome and the Ordinance of the Lord's Supper. The seal of the divine blessing was so obvious that there can be no doubt that in taking steps to form a church we were in the Will of God."

(taken from the Elm Grove Chronicle,
- Aug/Sep 1947)



*Goring Congregational Church,
Stone laying - Saturday 19th June 1948*

Since the autumn of 1939 when the stone laying of a new church should have taken place, members had to wait very patiently for the day when they could at last erect a Church building of their own. But under Mr Humphrey's 5 year leadership, numbers increased, the building fund was started, and a building eventually started.

*Shortly after this event Mr Humphrey died.
Rev Sidney Morgan was inducted into the
pastorate in December 1947.*

Memories of Elm Grove by Mr Bill West

My first visit to the Free Church in Goring was in the early 1940's at Elm Grove School, when my uncle, Mr E W G West was Treasurer of the Church and I believe Rev Morris Bold was minister.

During my journey down from London for my second visit to Goring in 1943 the train was stopped at Norbury because of a particularly heavy air raid on Croydon aerodrome. Croydon was then a major base for Hurricane and Spitfire fighters.

In 1948 construction of the new Church (now the Main Hall) was started. At that time, Shaftesbury Avenue was a lane and not a road as we now know it.

The railway station had only one entrance to it, from the south side of the line. The path to it passing the huts of the Inland Revenue whose staff came mainly from London and its suburbs as evacuees.

Reminiscences of 1948/1949

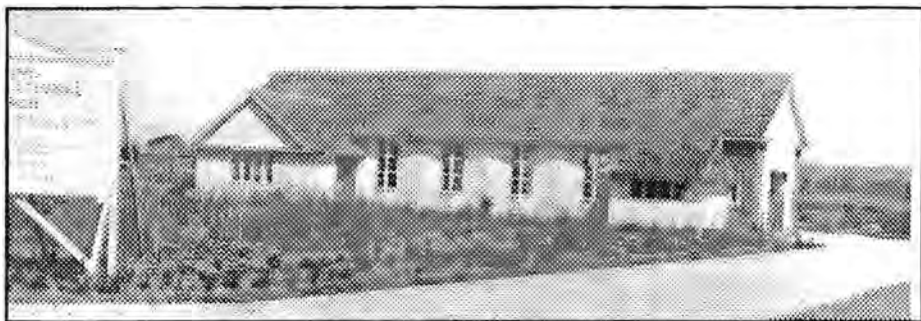
by Colin Nodes

After demobilisation and moving to Worthing, I attended two or three services at Elm Grove School in the latter part of 1948. In those far off days everything was more formal - frequently people were addressed by their surname, and the Minister addressed as sir, but this did not detract from the friendship within the Church. Regretfully I cannot remember all aspects of the worship, but what impressed me most was the very enthusiastic and Christian welcome I received from the members of the Church at Elm Grove. The sermons were preached by the Rev. S.O. Morgan who was a semi retired minister of the Presbyterian Church.

In 1949 the congregation moved to the Church Hall in Shaftesbury Avenue, and almost immediately numbers started to increase - both adults and children. The Church Hall stood alone - building

restrictions were still in force and only a limited number of new homes had been built. I recall that the Elders' Vestry was the Church Kitchen and that there were no curtains or framework on the stage. Coloured lights on the ceilings formed an attractive feature of the Hall. Towards the end of 1949 the Rev. H.M. Springbett was invited to the pastorate of the Church. Fund raising events were taking place to pay for a much needed Hall for the young people - originally known as the School Hall, but now the East Hall.

My parents were great friends of founder members Will and Mabel Hite. Will Hite the stewards secretary and Mabel Hite one of the leaders of the Ladies Working Party - the forerunner of the Women's Guild. Amongst those on the first Diaconate were Brenda Ford, Will Hite, Len Nodes, Miss Thomas & Mr. E.W.J. West. We give thanks to God for all those who helped in the early years of our Church.



1st March 1949 Opening of the new dual purpose building, Church & Church Hall.

April 1949 Requests made to start a Sunday School.

13th May 1949 Management Committee gave way to the first Deacon's meeting.

Nov 1949 Rev S O Morgan moved away and the Church Meeting recommended that Rev Springbett be called to ministry at Goring Congregational Church.

The story of the 1950's continues in April's Chronicle

NEWS from South Africa

Moffat Mission celebrates 200 years

The Moffat Mission, South Africa, on 26 September held a service to celebrate the arrival of the London Missionary Society (LMS) in 1799 and 200 years of Congregational mission and witness in southern Africa.

The service was led by Rev Steve Titus, president of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa (UCCSA). Rev Roderick Hewitt, of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, preached. Mr Hewitt said it was time for the Church to be committed to the welfare of all, and used the words of the prophet Haggai to tell the 1,500 people present to build up the people of God.

Ecumenical guest Rt Rev Njongonkulu Ndudane, Archbishop of Cape Town, spoke about the lack of economic justice in the world. He called for renewed commitment to

Church unity and said that a divided Church will not overcome poverty and injustice.

A bicentenary memorial was dedicated before the service by UCCSA General Secretary Rev Dr Desmond van der Water. He said the Church today should honour its past, be faithful to the present and look forward to the future.

The Moffat Mission was founded by the LMS in 1816. Scottish missionary Robert Moffat arrived in Kuruman from Scotland in 1820 and soon relocated the mission to its present position at Seodin in the valley of the Kuruman River.

from Inside Out



The UCCSA celebration hits the streets

NEWS from China

Police beat up house-church leaders

Five house-church leaders released by Chinese police on 20 October said they were beaten and threatened while in custody, according to UK-based Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW).



A Chinese house-church leader is arrested.

One of the prisoners, Mrs Kung, was beaten severely and forced to the ground by the police, CSW said.

They held her arms behind her back and forced her face into one of the street gutters, while four male officers kicked her, it added.

Prominent house-church leader Li Dexian said police warned him that next time he preached they would beat him until he collapsed.

The five were arrested by 200 police officers who raided Mr Li's church in Guangzhou on the 19th of October. The previous week 200 officers destroyed a shelter used by Mr Li for religious services.

But such arrests are not widespread, according to China's official Protestant organisation, the China Christian Council (CCC). "There is no general persecution in China. But with China being so vast, you cannot expect the policy of religious freedom to be applied everywhere,"

said CCC General Secretary Han Wen Zao.

from Inside Out



Don't forget our Jumble Sale Saturday 18th March 2.00pm

Jumble, Collectors, Sorters, Sellers, Clearers up, wanted

Please speak to Wilfred Rhodes or Graham Redman



Feba Mailings Dates

Tuesday 2nd May—Wednesday 3rd May

Tuesday 6th June—Thursday 8th June

Tuesday 15th August—Wednesday 16th August

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'D or E'

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 One of the great Old Testament prophets, taken captive to Babylon as a young man, trained for Court service. | 6 The shepherd boy who became Israel's second king. Founder of the royal line from which the Messiah was born. |
| 2 Wife of Zechariah and mother of John the Baptist. | 7 Son of Issac and Rebekah. Twin brother of Jacob. |
| Luke 1 | Gen 25, 27-28 |
| 3 Elijah's successor as prophet of Israel. | 8 Another great Old Testament prophet. |
| 1 & 2 Kings | Ezekiel |
| 4 The first woman tempted by Satan. | 9 One of Israel's greatest prophets. |
| Gen 3 | 1 & 2 Kings |
| 5 Jewish exile who became the queen of the Persian king, Ahasuerus. | 10 Woman noted for her good works whom Peter raised from the dead. |
| Esther | Acts 9 |

Answers: -

10. Dorcas

9. Elijah

8. Ezekiel

7. Esau

6. David

5. Esther

4. Eve

3. Elisha

2. Elizabeth

1. Daniel

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmans (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The April edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 2nd April. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 19th March.

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High Salvington
Worthing
West Sussex
BN13 3AT

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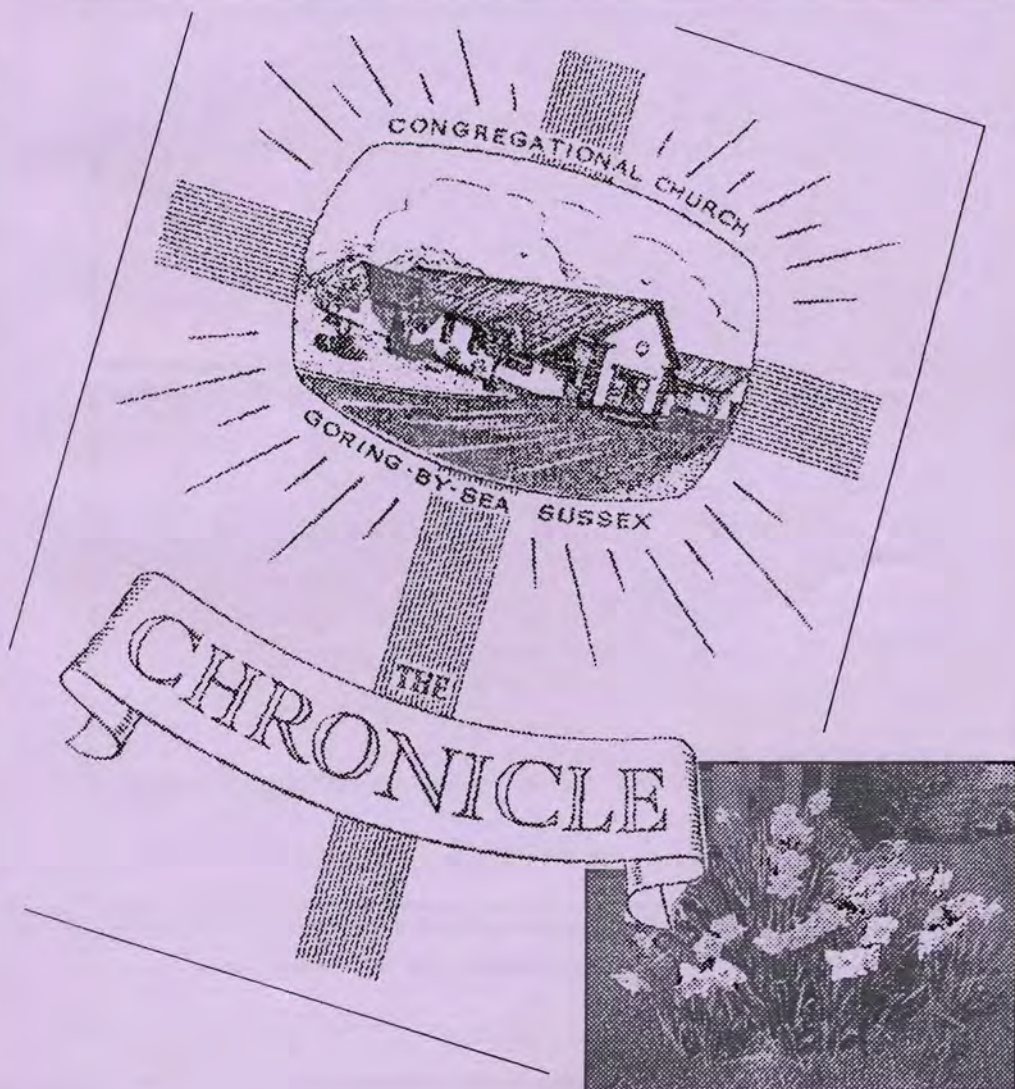
The Chronicle costs approximately 40p to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

April 2000

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

A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring - by - Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 4BA

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 Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
 Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

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5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
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15 Harvey Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS
Telephone: 01903 506452

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Family Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month. - GAS (God's Appreciation Society) - Junior Church with Crèche |
| 6.00pm | Evening Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month. - Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month. |

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 542

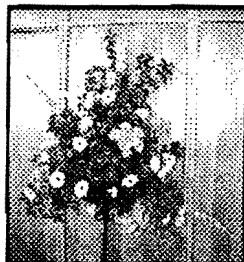
April 2000

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Pilgrim 2000: Children sitting on the remains of the demolished house.

Dear friends,

We doubt if many of you will read this without already knowing that we are moving to St. George's URC in Newcastle at the end of June. As has been said many times over the past weeks moving is always one of the most difficult decisions made in ministry. It is difficult at a human level for we have shared so much together with God's people over the last seven years and in good times and difficult times we have all sensed very clearly God's hand upon the life of his people. We have seen the Holy Spirit working within the life of the church in new and exciting challenges and in difficult situations. Yet, because we have all seen God's hand at work even when at the time for some all was not clear, we have learnt that through prayer we can always trust him totally. This then makes leaving an easy decision for whereas it may be difficult at a human level we know that God has his hand upon each situation. We believe that God has spoken very clearly telling us that this is his will. Being part of a conciliar church we have sought the testing of this decision through the necessary church councils and a unanimous call from the St. George's church meeting we believe is confirmation for God's calling for our ministry at this stage in our work for him.

We also believe that God confirms in many different ways any calling and the way in which any problems to our being able to accept this call have been dealt with has given us a real peace that this is God's will for us. This sense of peace has grown as we have shared our news, not because people necessarily want us to go but because most people have understood why we have made this decision. This sense of peace is a real strength and comfort knowing that God will be with us in our move and also knowing that God's hand is still firmly on the work of the church here in Goring and the Worthing Area Team Ministry.

Later this month we will celebrate Easter, we will be reminded that in all things God alone is in control. We will share the joy of resurrection and meet again the risen Christ who promises to be with us till the end of the age. It is his presence and his alone that we all need for the church is his church and we are his people called and chosen to proclaim his good news together. The message of Easter is not the treasure of one or two that they can then share with the others, rather to all of us is given the joy of this wonderful event so that we may share it together and with our neighbour.

We have regularly closed our letters by inviting you to pray for us as we seek God's way forward. Can we also ask you to pray for Margaret and Norman your ministers within the team, for the lay representatives and for all the elders that the Lord may lead and guide them.

Your servants in Christ,
Peter and Eileen

Handbook Amendments**New entry**

Mrs Violet Jones
78 Sunningdale Road
Worthing, West Sussex
BN13 2BN

Tel: 01903 692776

Death

Mrs Mavis Morris died on the
16th February 2000
Jesus said, *"Blessed are those
who mourn for they shall be
comforted"*

Appreciation

At long last, after nearly six months in two hospitals, I am back home so I am taking this opportunity of conveying my thanks for the many letters, 'get well' cards and telephone calls that I have received whilst out of action; also the flowers from the church which were a delight to receive to welcome me home.

I also much appreciated your prayers offered on my behalf.

May God bless you all, *Tom Lyons.*

My family and I would like to express our thanks to you all for the kind messages of sympathy and for your prayers. They have helped us greatly to bear our sad loss.

Bless you all, *Doris Edwards.*

Mrs Mavis Edeline Morris : 12 March 1919 - 16 February 2000

The passing of Mavis evoked much sorrow and sympathy from her many friends by whom she was loved and respected. This was much in evidence at the Burial service at Sompington Church on February 29th. The Revd. Peter Heckels officiated at the service in the church at St. Mary's which was followed by a quiet and peaceful ceremony at the grave side on the South Downs.

Not everyone was aware of Mavis' attributes, not least myself having known her at Goring United Reformed Church for some years. As a child she attended the Crusaders, later becoming a member of the Church of England. The family moved to Banstead in 1963 and there joined the URC. As a member she found great spiritual nurturing, care and friendship, and from these gifts was able to derive her many talents shared amongst

the house bound, the mentally distressed and the lonely. She first began working for Royal Doulton before taking up nursing during the war. Later she joined her father's leather business until her marriage sometime thence. It was while she was nursing she met her late husband. Ironically her experience in nursing proved very worthwhile. It was put to use for the last twelve years of his life when she nursed him with love and devotion.

Mavis came to Ferring in the late 80s. She became a member of Goring URC and of the Women's Guild on which she served for a time on the committee. She became a member of our house group led by Charles Taylor to which she contributed with her sharing of her experience and knowledge acquired over the years of her faith and love.

(Continued on page 4)

Mrs Mavis Edeline Morris : 12 March 1919 - 16 February 2000*(Continued from page 3)*

Mavis enjoyed an active part in sports—Badminton, Tennis, and Drama. She also enjoyed her trips abroad and was able to fulfil her ambitions until shortly before her illness. She was always mindful of her frail and ailing friends in Ferring and gave of her support and thought as far as she was able to help and assist. Mavis was an animal lover. This was in evidence when the cortège, drawn by four black horses came into view as they approached the church on the day of her funeral. Support for the Guide dogs for the Blind Assn. in lieu of flowers was yet another feature by which she was associated with care and thought for others.

Her family wish is to erect a sundial in her memory with the words “I only record the sunny hours”

Subsequently, a reception was given at the Tudor Inn, Ferring where family and friends reminisced on the life of Mavis Edeline Morris called home on 16th February 2000 to be with her Lord and Saviour, ‘At Rest’.

*Pheniah Taylor.***CHURCH RAMBLE****Bank Holiday Monday. 1st May**

Do you long to be in the country when spring is here?

Then come on the Church ramble—bring your family, and rope in some friends as well. Let's make it a good afternoon of fresh air, fun and fellowship!

Cars will leave the Church promptly at 2pm, and the circular walk will begin at 2.15pm at CLAPHAM CHURCH CAR PARK. Eileen and Wilf have been over the walk twice already and promise not to lose anyone. It is about 3 miles and takes about 2 hours, is level-ish, apart from mile gradual incline and includes 5 stiles and a few muddy patches. It passes through open land and Clapham woods and there are some good views.

Please wear stout shoes or boots, and bring a drink and a biscuit.

If you require transport or further information please ring —

Eileen and Wilf, 248263

flowers



Church flowers 2000

If you would like to provide flowers in the church for a particular occasion, birthday or anniversary the list for the year is 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 be added to the rota of 'arrangers' ?

Do you have surplus foliage in your garden that could be pruned occasionally by the arrangers? Please let Audrey (501153) or Carol (690334) know.

Flower arranging workshop

- Saturday 8th July

A Flower Arranging workshop is being planned that will relate primarily to the arranging of 'Church Flowers'. If you have always wanted to have a go at arranging the flowers in the Church then this is the morning to set aside to come and learn the basics of the mechanics and some design and colour principles.

Carolyn Meer, from Worthing Flower Club, a teacher and demonstrator, has agreed to come and lead the morning. If you already arrange the flowers, do come along, you may pick up some tips and new ideas.

I will place a list in the vestibule next to the 'Flower Rota' for those interested in the morning to sign up. If you want to know more please ask me. Further details will be available nearer the time.



Does anybody know the whereabouts of the blue shallow pottery container that is sometimes used for displaying the Church flowers?

Following the Church flower festival the Perspex diamond shapes that I used in the 'diamond' arrangement disappeared. They were handed in to a steward on the door, has anyone seen them anywhere on the Church premises?

Carol Webber

WORTHING FLOWER CLUB

PRESENTS

M is for

**AN EXHIBITION OF
FLORAL ART & CRAFT**

AT

AT UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

On

SATURDAY 15th APRIL

2.15 - 5.00

RAFFLE ~ STALLS ~ TEAS

ADMISSION £1.00 (at the door)

Kestro - Worthing Stroke Club

Do you drive a car?

Have you any spare time on Fridays?

If you can answer yes to these Questions please read on.

Kestro, Worthing Stroke Club meet in our Church hall on Fridays for support, friendship and fun but we do require extra drivers to enable the members to get to the hall for their meeting, especially when our regulars take their holidays.

Please consider helping on a regular, rota or occasional basis bringing folk to the hall for 2pm and returning them home at 4pm.

For further details please speak to Denise Woods (505177) or Robin Bradley (240908).

Harvest Thanksgiving & Diamond Jubilee

A group of us met to discuss arrangements for the week end Saturday 23rd and 24th September.

The week end is to include Harvest Thanksgiving, our Diamond jubilee, plus our gift day. We suggest that we have a Flower Festival, the church to be open from 10.00am—4.00pm on Saturday, and from 10.00am—11.00am and 4.30pm—7.00pm on Sunday.

An invitation is to be sent to Shelley Road to join us for a Harvest supper

followed by entertainment on Saturday 7.00pm—10.00 pm.

Sunday morning worship to include an item by our young people, led by Mr, Geoffrey Dearsley. Sunday 6.00 pm worship to be a Songs of Praise with contributions from all four churches in the Team.

The following Sunday (1st October) will be our service of rededication when having given thanks for all that is past we look forward to all that is to come.

Robin Bradley.

Table Sale

The Table Sale to be held on Saturday 13th May at 2.30pm in the Church Halls, will be the second fund raising event, for our church, for this year.

The cost for hiring a table will be £5.00 and if you do not want a table for yourself or for your organisation, there will be a 'Church' table in the Cornwall Room.

We shall not only be selling unwanted bits and pieces but also plants, cakes, groceries etc.

We can all do our bit and we shall need some help on the day.

Roy & Sheila Gooderham

Marmalade.

I am running low on suitable jars for marmalade and I am anticipating a large order from Bett Swierk. So if you have some to spare, with lids, could you please let me know and leave them in the kitchen or I will collect them. Many thanks.

Sheila Gooderham

Herne Bay Court by Paul Nicholls

There were 82 people at Herne Bay Court this year. There were 9 children and we all went in to a class.

We made up our own song there, with music and we made a 'church for the future', and while we were there we enjoyed playing table tennis, football, roller blading and crazy golf.

We enjoyed having our meals together, and Carol and Denise being with us.

The United Reformed Church

WORTHING AREA TEAM MINISTRY

Rev Margaret Ashby Rev Norman Croft Rev Peter Heckels

Shelley Road : St Columba's : Goring : St Andrews

Goring United Reformed Church



Tel: 01903 260568
Fax: 01903 260867
E-Mail: grahamredman@btinternet.com

Please reply to the Editor of The Chronicle :-

Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill
High Salvington
Worthing
West Sussex
BN13 3AT

Friday, 24 March 2000

Dear All who use Church Notepaper,

HEADED NOTEPAPER

If you are one of those who use the Goring URC Headed Notepaper and would like some of the new design, a fresh supply is now available to order.

You will see from the above that the design shows that we are now part of the Worthing Area Team Ministry.

The notepaper comes in A4 or A5 format, and can be supplied printed with -

Please reply to Goring :-

or

Please reply to The Church Secretary at Goring, The Church Treasurer at Goring, Women's Guild at Goring etc, etc . . .

Please speak to me if you would like some, and finally if you use a computer I can supply the above on floppy disk.

Yours sincerely,

Graham

Graham Redman





CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SUSSEX CHICHESTER TO ARUNDEL PILGRIMAGE: SATURDAY 27 MAY 2000

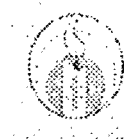
An easy 12 mile walk through some beautiful countryside along bridleways and minor roads, except for getting out of Chichester and into Arundel. There will be a service in Chichester Cathedral at 10.30am and the walk will begin at 11am. The route will go through Westhampnett, Boxgrove and Slindon; there will be a short act of worship at each place. A short final service will be held at Arundel Cathedral at about 5pm. Advanced registration will help ensure safety and an adequate number of stewards, orders of service etc. Walkers should bring their own food and drink. No dogs or other animals will be allowed. There will be some limited transport in the morning from Arundel to Chichester and back to Chichester after the service at Arundel. Early pre-booking for transport is essential.



*Information & notification: Will Pratt, Church House,
211 New Church Road, Hove BN3 4ED;
tel: 01273 421021;
email: media@diochi.org.uk*

The Retreats fellowship of the Southern Synod, URC

The Retreats Fellowship was formed as "Fairmile Fellowship"
in the Southern Province of the United Reformed Church in 1986.



It exists to:-

- Promote silence and retreats within the Province;
- Arrange quiet days and residential retreats;
- Encourage Christians to lead a more disciplined life of prayer, silence, study, work and recreation;
- Be a resource for individuals, congregations, Districts and Province in the deepening of spiritual life;
- Provide support and encouragement by sharing spiritual resources and prayer in small groups around the Province.

Southern Synod meeting. Orpington.**11th March 2000**

Rev Peter Heckels and I set off at 9.00am in a car with Miss Kitty Pugh from St Columba's and driven by Mr Ian Chalmers also of St. Columaba's.

The journey was quick and uneventful and the M25 so tame that we were with Synod very soon after 10.00! There was a welcome coffee or tea, and an opportunity to catch up with friends from around the South, before the meeting began with devotions led by the Revd. Margaret Collins, the Associate Minister of St. John's, and two young people from the youth group. There were 343 members and 84 retired Ministers present, also ecumenical visitors.

The morning session included the Mission Council Report; a report from those who travelled to Israel on the "Pilgrim 2000" journey (see page 24 in this Chronicle); a detailed comment on the Document "Growing Up" given by Revd John Waller, and Mr Des Colechin spoke on Continuing Ministerial Education (CME). We were glad to hear the announcement for lunch, get up and stretch our legs, and resume conversation with friends. St. John's prepared us soup, but not enough seats for all, so Peter and I and one or two others took our sandwiches outside and sat in the new spring sunshine which was just warm enough! The church is set on a hill and some ventured down to the streets of shops below for a brisk walk and climb back, others made use of the URC book-shop display and collected the 'Synod bags' containing letters to churches and various information sheets and notices, some of which appear in this magazine.

And so to the afternoon. The first item was the reception of new ministers, newly retired ministers, students, staff and officers. These all shook hands with Rev David Helyar, the Moderator, as did Peter on his call to St. George's, High Heaton, and Ian Chalmers a new rep. to Mission Council serving to 2003. The Revd Barrie Scopes spoke about our links with South India, and the Rev Richard Wells talked about the URC in South East London. At 3.00 pm we attended to the matter of Resolution 34. Discussion took place, some speaking of disappointment, and contradiction, some saying that although the resolution is not very clear it does reflect where the URC is at the moment. A vote was taken on whether to accept or reject the Resolution: 120 voted in favour and 81 voted against.

The afternoon closed with a 'thank you' to St John's for their hospitality, and after a short break there was a celebration of Holy Communion. The Moderator presided, and an offertory was taken up to send to the Mozambique flood relief. It is difficult to give a 'flavour' of the day in a magazine report. It is always good to get together with others from such a wide area – to exchange news and views. I have the details of the reports mentioned above should you wish to see them, and in due course I shall have the Synod minutes available to those who wish to read them.

Please do ask if you would like to know more. The next meeting of Synod is on 14th October 2000 at St. Bede's School, Redhill, Croydon. Would you like to come? You would be very welcome.

Hilary Redman



URC SOUTHERN PROVINCE GOLF DAY

- Following the success of the 1999 Golf day, popular demand has resulted in a further event being arranged for THURSDAY 18th MAY 2000
- Venue Darenth Valley Golf Club Near Sevenoaks, Kent which is easily accessible from all main routes.
- Format One round (Morning) Stableford followed by soup and sandwiches lunch and prizegiving.
- Cost £24 per head (to include golf, lunch and prizes)
- This invitation is open to all clergy and lay members (and their guests).
- Ladies will be particularly welcome
- Please respond as soon as possible but by not later than 22nd April in order to assist administration with the Golf Club. Applications will be acknowledged and full details for travel will be provided.
- _____
- Name
- Address and Telephone
- Church
- Please return to Chris Horne 151, Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 6JE
01634 847594

Planning a way forward

Last month we posed the question, "Where is ministry going?" This month we aim to show how Southern Synod is seeking to make the best and most effective use of the scarce but precious resource of stipendiary ministry.

In 1999, there were 667 stipendiary ministers serving local churches throughout the 12 Synods. That figure included 88 in Southern Synod.

By 2001, it has been calculated that, with the addition of the Synod of Scotland, there will be 652 ministers serving 13 Synods (including 75 in Southern Synod). By 2005, that number will have further decreased to 614 ministers (including 71 in Southern Synod).

In order to give churches and districts some stability in planning a way forward, Southern Synod has agreed to work now with the 2005 target of 71 stipendiary ministers divided amongst our 7 Districts.

It is with this target figure before us that changes in the deployment of ministry must be made, with ministers and congregations having to adjust to new patterns of leadership and new ways of working together. In some areas this is already happening, with collaborative team ministry involving stipendiary ministers, non-stipendiary ministers, lay preachers, lay leaders and elders.

From the target figure of 71 it has also been agreed that 4 should be set aside for "strategic ministries" in new areas of growth or development. This offers an exciting and challenging prospect for District Councils, who will be able to "put in a bid" for such a ministry post. A small working group, with a representative from each District, will approve and monitor those 4 posts.

That leaves 67 ministers for District Councils to deploy. At any given time there is

approximately a 10% vacancy rate, so that the number of pastorates scoped for ministry is roughly 10% greater than the target number of ministers. In addition, ecumenical situations count as 0.5 for calculation purposes.

For 2005 the target figures for each District are:

A	Wimbledon	11.5 ministers (12.5 scoped pastorates)
B	Croydon	13.0 ministers (14.0 scoped pastorates)
C	S.E. London	12.0 ministers (13.5 scoped pastorates)
D	Medway	8.0 ministers (9.0 scoped pastorates)
E	Canterbury	5.5 ministers (6.0 scoped pastorates)
F	Sussex East	9.5 ministers (10.5 scoped pastorates)
G	Sussex West	7.5 ministers (8.5 scoped pastorates)

All who are involved in the decision making process within Districts need our prayers as they face the opportunities and challenges before them.

Finally, how does your church respond? In the third and final article next month we will ask you to consider what the Holy Spirit is saying to your local church.

- From the office of The Southern Synod



DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO

Supplementary Non Supplementary CRCW
Lay Training and Development Youth Work Mission
**ACT NOW AND ATTEND THE
ENQUIRERS CONFERENCE**

GOD CALLING FIND OUT MORE...

BRIGHTHELM URC BRIGHTON EAST SUSSEX

DATE: 20 MAY 2000

Booking Form From:

Des P Colechin PDO

5 Lambourne Road, Bearsted

Maldstone, Kent, ME15 8LZ

Telephone: 01622 738244

Rowland Singers Concert

As promised here are some further details of the Easter Concert being given in our Church on Wednesday 12th April at 7.30pm. The programmes are available from members of the choir or at the door and are priced at £3.

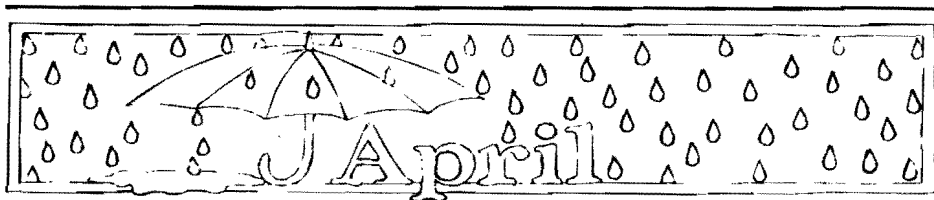
The music we shall sing will be Requiem by John Rutter, Zadok the Priest by Handel together with other anthems and solos, finishing with the Easter Hymn 'O Rejoice that the Lord has Arisen' by Mascagni.

The soloists are Anne Robinson - Soprano, Helen Emery - Oboe, Christopher Benson - Cello and Simon Healey - Organ. The concert will be conducted as usual by Jacqueline Emery.

I am sure you will enjoy both the solemnity and the joyfulness of the music conveying both the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sheila Gooderham

For your Diary in 2000...



Sat 1 9.30am-5.00pm Walk thru' the Bible. Hove Central URC

Sun
2 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 6 From 7.30am Day of Prayer

Sat 8 From 9.15am Working Party Day (see page 4, March Chronicle)

Sun
9 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Passion Sunday

Tue 11 2.30pm Women's Guild Easter Service

Wed 12 7.30pm Rowland Singers (see page 13)

Thu 13 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Palm Sunday

Sun
16 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm St Mary's: The Messiah. No evening service at Goring URC

**** Last day for**

May Chronicle material

Thu 20 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Communion

Fri 21 10.30am Good Friday Service

Sat 22 2.00pm Passion Play starting at English Martyrs, via Bury Drive to St Mary's Church Hall, Goring. No tickets required, just come along.

Easter Day

Sun
23 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship 'Team Praise'

Thu 27 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sun
30 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship



The Annual Team Service Sunday 21st May

The combined service for all the four Worthing Team churches will be on Sunday 21st May at 6pm at St Andrew's Church, Rustington. This will be preceded by tea at 5pm. Everyone will be welcome and you are encouraged to come and share this happy occasion together. - Jane Bond



May Day Bank Holiday

Mon	1	2.00pm	Church Ramble starting from the Church (see Page 4)
Tue	2	2.30pm	Women's Guild. West Sussex Towns Women's Guild Federation Choir
Thu	4	From 7.30am	Day of Prayer
Sun 7		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
Thu	11	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sat	13	2.00pm	Table Sale (see Page 7)
Sun 14		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Junior Church Anniversary
		6.30pm	CTG. Bury Drive Methodist ** Last day for June Chronicle material
Tue	16	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Annual General Meeting.
16th-19th	10-5 Daily		Christian Resources Exhibition
Sat	20		Team Elders' Day at East Wittering
Sun 21		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	St Andrew's, Rustington. Worthing Area Team Service
Thu	25	7.30pm	Church Meeting
Sat	27	10.30am	Chichester Cathedral short service followed at 11.00am with the walk to Arundel. Page 9 for details.
Sun 28		8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Evening Worship
Tue	30	2.30pm	Women's Guild Outing

Christian Aid Week
14th-20th May



Looking ahead

Tuesday 30 May —
Saturday 3 June

Sunday 25 June

Saturday 8th July

Exterior Painting of Church Halls
More details in next month's Chronicle.

Rev Peter Heckels' last Sunday in
Goring before moving to Newcastle.

Flower arranging workshop. See Page 5



Goring United Reformed Church

The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

1950—1959

With a new Congregational Church recently opened on the first of March 1949, and initially led by Rev Sidney Morgan, the Rev H M Springbett was called to the church and inducted to the pastorate in 1950.

When Mr Springbett wrote on the occasion of our 50th anniversary, he said in his letter, "My stipend was less than £7 per 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. Times have changed and the minister here at my church in Aberdaron rejoices in his word-processor.

I was inducted on 9th February 1950. The Manse was at 19 Brook Barn Way, and I soon aquired an allotment between it and the sea to help feed the family. I was the first full time minister of the Congregational 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. I also note from my diaries that as early as the spring of 1951 there was a Building Committee to give preliminary thought to the erection of a Church building



Rev H M Springbett

The Rostrum of the new Church. (now the stage)



The Rev Harold Springbett will best be remembered as a sincere and scholarly preacher, and a very great admirer of the hymns of Isaac Watts and the Wesleys; and was therefore more than pleased that

a generous offer of £100 by the late Miss Handford made it possible for the Church to have a new hymn book, "Congregational Praise"

Taken from 'Twixt Downs and the sea'



New Hall opens

It wasn't long before a separate hall was needed for the children of the 'Sunday School', and this was opened in November 1950. Mr Springbett can be seen to the right of the picture.

In the 50th issue of The CHRONICLE July-August 1952 it was written - *'In these past eight years since May 1944, when the first Chronicle appeared, there have been crowded varied experiences for us as a growing Church, and this 50th issue may well serve to remind us how much we owe to some of those who have now passed on. To be able to look back and trace God's guiding hand is never wasted time. From the pulpit at Elm Grove in the earlier days, it was once suggested that each one of us might do worse than sit down quietly and make a list of all those to whom we owe so much in our personal lives. None of us would find this an easy task, for it would be found extremely difficult to know*

when to stop, and what order to place the names in.'

In that Chronicle, various items were reprinted from earlier issues, one of which was the first 'Dedication' service at Elm Grove - Edward George Hite and Irene Challis. Many will know Irene as Irene Tuley, and Edward Hite is friendly with Graham Redman's brother.

The Treasurer gratefully acknowledges those who have responded to increasing their Free-Will-Offering by 6d or 1/- per week. The Treasurer also raised the issue of covenanting; he said there was no expense involved providing Income Tax is paid by those contributing at the full rate of 9/6 in the pound.

The CHRONICLE Editors

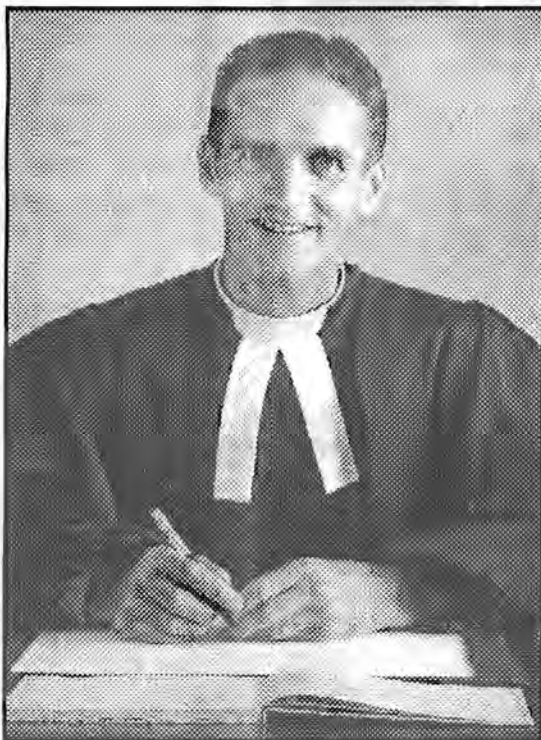
Mr Cornwall who had been Editor of The Chronicle shortly after its inception in 1944 decided that it was time to stand down at the end of 1953 and to pass his responsibilities onto Mr A E Pearn.

Mr Rule, who was then Church Secretary apparently handed a bundle of notes and letters to Mr Cornwall and in

his jovial manner asked him to "make something of that." The "something" was of course The Chronicle. Since that time Mr Cornwall has edited, typed and published the paper once every two months.

Mr Pearn continued with the editing until 1959 when Miss Ethel Gilby took over. We remember Ethel who died in January 1999.

The ministry of Rev C C Franks



Rev Cyril Franks, Minister of Goring Congregational Church 1954-1963.

At a well attended Special Church Meeting held on 17th December 1953, and presided over by Rev S O Morgan, (who had again consented to help while the Church was without a minister) it was decided to give a very cordial call to the Rev Charles Cyril Franks of Garn Congregational Church, Abercarn to the ministry at Goring.

Mr & Mrs Franks were to come to a church which was ripe for expansion and which was full of opportunity for a man in the prime of his life. He came with his wife, Joan in March 1954.

By 1958, Joan & Cyril had family of four and a new Manse was required. The Brook Barn Way Manse was sold for £2820 and the 140 George V Avenue Manse was purchased for £4500.

Cyril Franks later became Moderator of the URC, Southern Province

The story continues with the 1960's in May's Chronicle.

More about the 1950's though on the next page of this month's magazine

Memories of the Church between 1954 and 1959

"Michael, Rosemary and I moved to Elgin Road in 1954. In those days children started Sunday School when they were five years old, so in 1956 Rosemary was enrolled, while Michael and I gradually became once again involved in church life, having been absent for a good number of years. We were both greatly blessed by the church in the 1960's. My impression was that the place was a hive of friendly activity under the Rev Cyril and Mrs Joan Franks' ministry, every age group being well represented.

Soon I was part of Young Wives, a large group well organized by Joan Franks and Margaret Dobson, its founder. In those days married women rarely went out to work and we all had our allotted tasks, each with someone for whom we did shopping and other odd jobs and upon whom we kept a friendly eye. There was also the Women's Working Party, run so beautifully by Mrs Mabel Hite who was later to become a very dear friend indeed. The (now) Church Hall was packed with ladies sewing and knitting on alternate Tuesday afternoons.

At that time of course, we were raising money as fast as we could to finance the new church, soon to be built. One way of raising funds, I remember, was to invite members of the Church and the general public to sponsor bricks at a shilling each. There were many other activities and the church was packed to overflowing each Sunday to hear the dynamic and challenging preaching of our young minister. We needed that new church."

Irene Kitto

"In 1956 I started Sunday School at the age of 5 and Audrey Stewart was my Sunday School teacher & Miss Lock played the piano. Our class was held in the front room of the school hall (now the East hall). Towards the end of the fifty's I went into the juniors and we met in the back room where Mr Motson was in charge.

The entire Sunday School only had the two rooms, as the present church hall was then the church and was always very full. This meant we could not go into church as there was no room, so we had a Tannoy system in the hall so that we could listen to relevant parts of the service from the church. Mr Franks was the minister and, as a young child, I loved him very much and imagined Jesus must have been a lot like him! Although I did not join until 1960, the 5th Worthing Girls' Life Brigade was very active. Mrs Stratton became Captain in 1956 and Mrs Dobson (now at Durrington LEP) became Lieutenant in 1957 having previously been a helper. During the summer they often played rounders in West Park and badge work slipped somewhat!

Every other Tuesday the children who went to West Park School and whose mothers attended the Women's Working Party, went along after school and joined their parents for tea and cake. Helen Frank - Mr and Mrs Franks' second child - also went to West Park School and we were in the same class. I used to go occasionally to play with Helen at the manse, 140 George V Avenue. Those early days were for me very happy ones."

Rosemary Kitto

Thinking Mission

God, creation and us

The Bible teaches that God created human beings to care for creation responsibly, not to exploit it selfishly, argues Michael Cassidy.

Time magazine once had these words on its front cover: "Why saving the environment will be the next century's greatest challenge." Many Christian thinkers also believe that the greatest threat to the human race today is a peacetime peril - the ruination of our planet's natural resources and delicate ecosystems by crude exploitation and mindless greed.

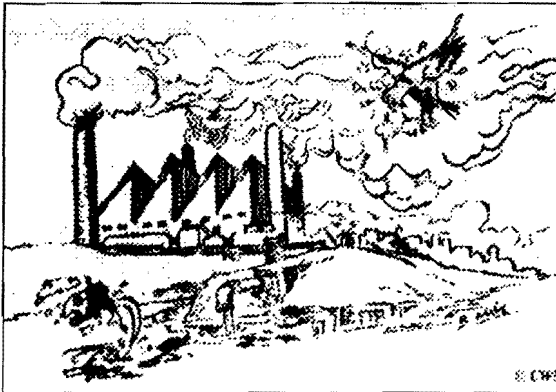
If we pause for a moment and reflect on the glory of God's creation, we may understand the gravity of such statements. Psalm 8 proclaims: "When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" Praise of creation is of course not limited to the Bible or to Christian writings.

Endless volumes overflow in poem and prose about nature. But only believers in God really see nature because only they see the signature of God that sets it ablaze with meaning. The Bible says that creation is one giant system of interdependence - grass upon soil, animals upon grass, humans upon animals, fish upon sea, birds upon air and all of us upon God.

Christians need to remember this and develop a biblical view of the world if they are to defend the environment. Such an understanding can be summarised in five points.

First, Christians must start with a creationist view. Genesis 1.1 says: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." Then it says in verse 31: "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good." So creation is good. It is God's, but it is not part of God. It has an

independent existence to God. He is seen in a tree, a flower or an animal, but he is not the tree, flower or animal. So Christians are not pantheists -



who say that God is all and all is God - or Zen Buddhists - we are all of one essence - or atheists - everything comes from time and chance.

We treat the world with care because it is the creation of God. We believe in creation and love it because we first believe in the Creator and love him.

Second, humans are made in the image of God. We are different from the natural and animal world and vastly more valuable. After pointing out to his disciples that God cares for all creatures, Jesus said: "Are you not much more valuable than them?" And we also have control over them. In Genesis 1.28 God says to humankind: "Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

So humans have an upward relationship with God, which gives meaning to their lives, and a downward relationship with nature, which calls for responsibility, love and concern. We are guardians and stewards of nature and do not deal with our own possessions, but with God's. We are in charge, but we are not free to exploit. Our dominion over nature is subject to God's dominion over us and nature.

Third, created things are created by God and therefore have an intrinsic value. The tree is entitled to be a tree because God made it. Things are not just valuable because they can serve us humans, but because they are part of God's creation and fit into his overall plan and provision for the planet.

Fourth, something has gone wrong in the created order. This is mysterious and related to our attempt to live independently of God - sin. For Christians, neither our lives as humans nor the created order are normal. Therefore there will always be things in life, history and nature that are bad, inexplicable, ugly and perplexing.

Fifth, the Bible says that the world will not last for ever. Matter is not eternal. Science confirms this with its law of entropy that there is loss of energy in world and universe.

History and our planet will be consummated in the return of Jesus Christ, and his words will stand when all else has gone. Jesus said: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my

words will never pass away." (Matthew 24.35)

So while we do not know exactly what the future holds, we know who holds the future. We are to steward, guard and enjoy to the full the Lord's created order as we know it, until Jesus comes again.



Michael Cassidy is founder and leader of African Enterprise, an interdenominational and international team of evangelists operating as a mission aid and service agency primarily to churches in the urban centres of Africa.

From "Inside Out" - Journal of the Council for World Mission

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth and

animals and plants. Then he created the human race and told it to care for his creation. But it is obvious today that we have failed in the task. We are destroying forests at an alarming rate, killing countless animal and plant species each year, and polluting the seas and the air with the waste from our frenzied race to consume more and more.

Christians should be at the forefront of environmental work as their biblical mandate is crystal clear. And indeed, more and more are heeding God's command to care for creation.

"The murder of the earth's forests" explains how the United Church in the Solomon Islands (UCSI) in the Pacific is offering an alternative to the mass logging of the large international companies.

UCSI knows that rainforests are crucial to the earth's wellbeing and is running a logging project that sustains, rather than destroys, the forests.

"The rock of life" tells the story of

Christians in conservation in Europe and the Middle East. Education is a

Caring for God's creation

key part of their work as they try to show us the beauty of creation and encourage a more responsible attitude towards it among Christians and non-Christians.

The controversial issue of genetically-modified (GM) food is looked at in "Harvests of woe". GM companies say that their food could solve world hunger problems by boosting production. But environmental activists and Third World farmers describe a radically different reality. GM technology could threaten biodiversity, lead to mass health problems and leave farmers at the mercy of the GM companies.

Paul in Colossians 1 tells us that our lord Jesus Christ "reconciled to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross". So Jesus' death was to reconcile the whole of creation with God. It is now up to us to live this out.

Nick Sireau

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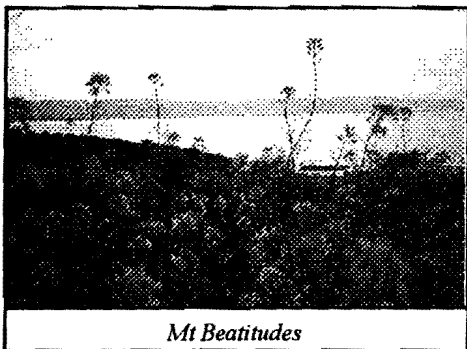
*A Pilgrimage to Israel***Pilgrim 2000****By Nancy Welch**

On February 22nd, 94 members of the United Reformed Church from all over the United Kingdom, left Heathrow for a pilgrimage to Israel.

The Church in Israel and Palestine invited members of the URC to make the pilgrimage in the Year 2000, to visit the holy places, but also to meet with the people of the land and engage in the life and ministry of the Churches. I was privileged to be a member of the party.

I left Bognor at 7.30 am and we reached our first destination, Tiberias, after midnight (Israeli time).

In spite of a short night, we were up early in the morning to sail on Lake Galilee, and to visit Capernaum, Tabgha (where the miracle of the loaves and fishes is commemorated), and the Church of the Beatitudes. Lunch (with St Peter's fish) was at the Beatitudes Hospice, and after the meal we walked down from the hilltop, as Jesus and His disciples would have done, to the lake shore, where we celebrated Holy

*Mt Beatitudes*

Communion to the accompaniment of the Israeli Defence Force planes droning overhead.

Next day we were again up early to visit Cana in Galilee and Nazareth. That afternoon our education in the real state of affairs concerning the plight of the Palestinians began. We visited Ibilin, a village to the north west of



Rev Peter McIntosh, Moderator General Assembly with Father Elias Chacour

Galilee, on the Mediterranean coast, to meet Father Elias Chacour, who is an Israeli Arab Melkite priest. What a charismatic character! In spite of intense opposition from the Israeli Government, he began his now-famous school with 80 teenage students in the early 80s, and now there are 3,900 students. The senior college is the only one in Israel where Christians, Moslems, Druze and Jewish students all learn together. He says 'Our college is one of the rare sources of hope in Israel.'

The next day we left Tiberias en route

for Jerusalem. We crossed the Jezreel Valley to visit the Church of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor. At each of our stops we had brief periods of worship, incorporating the relevant passages of the Bible, and this was a moving experience. Another member of the party and myself on our bus had to see that worship happened, and we tried to involve as many people as possible.

We drove through Samaria through Palestinian land, and the poverty was very apparent. We visited Sebastia, an old Roman town, and the place where John the Baptist's head is supposed to be buried. We paused at

Nablus to visit Jacob's Well, and at last reached our hotel situated between the Damascus Gate and the Garden Tomb. Lasting impressions of Jerusalem include the traffic, the incessant hooting and the young armed policemen & soldiers. We went to the Western Wall (through tight security), the Dome of the Rock, the Pool of Bethesda, the Mount of Olives, including the Pater Noster Church (with its many translations of the Lord's Prayer), the Garden of Gethsemane, where the olive trees are very ancient, and the Church of St Peter in Gaillicantu, in which I had the privilege of reading the story of Peter's denial. And many other places, including the Yad Vashem Memorial to the Holocaust and the Chagall windows at Hasadah. Our last morning included Bethlehem, and a very

moving Communion service in a cave-like church at Shepherds' Fields.

But perhaps the most important visits we made were to see the 'Living Stones', today's Christians, in Gaza and in Jericho. It took us an hour to get through the Israeli check point before we



Christian & Muslim students at the NECC's College in Gaza.

were allowed to go into Gaza itself. Our passports were impounded, and returned stamped, and the same thing happened on the way back. Our party

divided after the check point. Half went to see the PARC (Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee) Project, which is supported by the URC's Commitment for Life programme, and the others, myself included, visited the projects of the Near East Christian Council (NECC). We saw a clinic for mothers and children, run by a young but very efficient Muslim nurse.

We went on to the college where young women, both Christians and Muslims together, are being taught a variety of skills, including dress-making, computing, and how to run meetings (efficient secretaries are much in demand!). We were taken to a UN Refugee Camp, and met a family where

(Continued on page 26)

A Pilgrimage to Israel

(Continued from page 25)

the distress of the elderly and disabled mother, forcefully telling us in Arabic all their troubles, caused one of our excellent group of young people to weep. I haven't the space to spell out the six ways in which the Israelis are expropriating the land and denying the Palestinians access to water. The other group were much impressed by the work carried out by PARC, which is also supported by Christian Aid. In Jericho we also saw a PARC project. Finally, I must mention SABEEL, a Christian organisation which, among other activities, is trying to help the dispossessed in Jerusalem. We were taken to see a UN Refugee Camp in Jerusalem, and also to meet a particular family (not in the Camp.) En route we passed a number of new Jewish settlements,



The Lawyer & part of the family at their demolished house



The distressed father

well built, with gardens in front of them. This Palestinian family has owned some land for generations, but they cannot get permission to build on it. So what are they to do? They build a house without permission because they are desperate. One day, after the children had gone to school, the soldiers came without warning and demolished most of the house. The distress on the father's face as their story was told by a many times imprisoned human rights lawyer, was almost too much for us to bear. It was a fascinating yet disturbing pilgrimage. No wonder we were all pretty exhausted by the time we reached home. Please pray for the 'Living Stones', Christ's Church in Israel and Palestine, and for the Muslims and Israelis, that they may all realise they are children of the same God.

Nancy Welch is a member and Elder of Bognor Regis URC.

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For more information - see notice board in hall

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in the Lakes during April 15th–25th.
Full Board—£65.00

Pentecost Party 2000. 9–11 June or part.
Full Board £32.50

Mission Growth. 26–29 June 2000
Full Board £97.50

Full details on the Church Notice Board

Can you name these people, all beginning with ‘F,G or H’

1 Roman procurator who kept Paul in prison. Acts 23,24	6 Noah’s son Gen 5,9,10
2 The angel sent to Mary to announce the birth of Jesus. Luke 1	7 Successor to Felix - heard Paul at Caesarea. Acts 25
3 Son of Jacob & Leah’s maid. Gen 30	8 Delivered Israel from the Mideanites. Judges 6-8
4 Mother of Samuel. Sam 1	9 Prophet who stirred the people to rebuild the temple. Haggai
5 Prophet of God’s love for faithless people. Hosea	10 Philistine champion killed by David. 1 Sam

Answers: -

- | | | | | |
|----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 6. Ham | 7. Festus | 8. Gideon | 9. Haggai | 10. Goliath |
| 1. Felix | 2. Gabriel | 3. Gad | 4. Hannah | 5. Hosea |

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The May edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 30th April. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 16th April.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

May 2000

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

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

He is risen
indeed !
Hallelujah



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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 Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
 Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

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 5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
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 Telephone: 01903 506452

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
 51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
 Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Worship

- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- GAS (God's Appreciation Society)
- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship

- with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month.
- Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month.

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 543

May 2000

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Dear friends,

We have just celebrated Easter and shared together again the events of Maundy Thursday remembering Jesus' words 'This is my body broken for you and this is the cup of the New Covenant in my blood'. Words that bring us into a new relationship with God, words that remind us that we are the people on whom God pours his love. Good Friday, the day of crucifixion, was again a day to remember the length that God would go that we might have some understanding of his love. This is a day when we do not play at love but a day when our only response to God's love can be our giving of all our love to him. Easter Saturday with Jesus lying in the tomb passed almost unnoticed yet it is a day of wondering, a wondering of what the future will be about. Little wonder there is no record of this day in Scripture for this was the Sabbath, a holy day. But Easter Day the day of resurrection found our hearts lifted and we were filled with a sense of new beginnings, fear had been driven away, death was vanquished and we live in the power of the resurrection. The Church of God is truly made up of the people of resurrection.

This is a period of encouragement in our faith and indeed Jesus spent the weeks immediately after Easter encouraging his disciples and preparing them for the task ahead. Encouragement is not something we are particularly good at – too often, we simply choose to criticise which is of course a much easier option. Yet, we should be encouraging one another and building each other up in our service and faith. Can you imagine Jesus using a parable, which began the love of God is like your car insurance that you know will be there to help you when you are in trouble. There was one occasion when we were on holiday in Wales and suddenly realised that our car insurance had expired! We rang our insurance company immediately to seek the cover we needed because the notice stated quite clearly that no days of grace were allowed. Fortunately all was well and we were able to continue our holiday without breaking the law and without the fear of accidents. Yet, the truth is that for a short while imagination ran riot and there were accidents waiting seemingly to happen all the time without insurance. Jesus would not talk of a parable as being like insurance because God's love does not depend on our actions. As we have remembered at Easter God's love is unconditional and comes full of grace. He doesn't promise us that he will only be there in times of need rather he promises that he will be there helping and supporting us day by day. Neither does grace depend upon us paying any sort of premium; Jesus paid the price that gives us full cover forever. So, let us encourage each other in the knowledge that we are all equally the children of God. Jesus has paid the price for each one and he now calls us to be his people covered by his grace doing his work. Continue to pray for us and all those who are part of the church that we all may be encouraged by the joy we have shared over this Easter period.

Your servants in Christ,

Peter and Eileen

Handbook Amendments

Mrs Joy Blackford to :- Tel: 01444 881768
Eastbridge Manor,
Wineham Lane, Bolney, RH17 5SD

Mrs Peggy Croydon to :- Tel: 01903 241043
Hayward House
2 Shaftesbury Avenue
Goring by Sea, Worthing, BN12 2EB

Congratulations to Lesley Smith on the
announcement of her engagement. - We wish
Wilma & Matthew every blessing, now that
they have 2 weddings to prepare for !

Open Day at The Manse

Peter and Eileen are
having an open day at the
Manse before they leave
Worthing for Newcastle
and would be happy to see
you on June 6th any time
between,

- 10am and 12noon;
- 2pm and 4pm;
- 7pm and 9pm

E-Mail

Do you have an E-Mail address ? If you do, you may like to let Graham Redman know, by E-Mail of course (grahamredman@btinternet.com). He is compiling a directory of E-Mail addresses for people associated with the church. Thank you.

CHURCH RAMBLE**Bank Holiday Monday, 1st May**

Do you long to be in the country when spring is here?

Then come on the Church ramble-bring your family, and rope in some friends as well. Let's make it a good afternoon of fresh air, fun and fellowship!

Cars will leave the Church promptly at 2pm, and the circular walk will begin at 2.15pm at CLAPHAM CHURCH CAR PARK. Eileen and Wilf have been over the walk twice already and promise not to lose anyone. It is about 3 miles and takes about 2 hours, is level-ish, apart from mile gradual incline and includes 5 stiles and a few muddy patches. It passes through open land and Clapham woods and there are some good views.

Please wear stout shoes or boots, and bring a drink and a biscuit.

If you require transport or further information please ring —

Eileen and Wilf, 248263

Notice of Elders' Election 2000

It is time to seek the names of Church members who may be willing to answer the call to Eldership, and to elect those who will take the place of those standing down after the maximum term of service, (that is usually six years) as laid down in the document "Organising the Church for Growth & Mission".

Nominees must have been Church Members for at least two years prior to their ordination, and can only be nominated by Church members. Nomination forms will be available during May and must be handed to the Church Secretary prior to & including the first Sunday in June. The permission of the nominee must be obtained, and the nomination form be signed by the nominee, proposer and seconder.

This year there will be vacancies for six Pastoral Elders and three Administrative Elders.

Church Exterior Painting Programme

At the Church Meeting on 23 March, it was agreed that the outside of the Church building could be repainted by means of volunteers from within the Fellowship. The work to be spread over a period of 3 years.

This year it is proposed to repaint the Church Hall, Vestries, Cloakrooms at front of Church etc. All during the half term holiday starting at the end of May. Paint and materials available. The walls and woodwork will be prepared ready for redecorating prior to the holiday.



The operation to be organised by Matthew Smith. Repainting of opening windows to take place in the mornings,

Please contact Matthew or any member of the Committee if you are able to volunteer for this work.

Colin Nodes.

Table Sale — Saturday 13th May

As you know we are organising a Table Sale to raise funds for the Church, and it is to be held on Saturday the 13th May at 2.30pm in the church hall.

A table costs £5.00 (and includes 2 people serving).

Admission is 50p. and will include a drink etc.

There will be a table for the church and we will sell anything etc. jumble and all proceeds will go to church funds. Roy will have tomato plants and busy-lizzies for sale and any other plants will be welcome. Sheila will provide marmalade and cakes and hope others will do as well. A box will be left in the vestibule for your gifts on the 7th May or they can be brought to the church hall, in the morning of 13th May, after 11am.

Roy & Sheila Gooderham

Christian Aid Week

14th to 20th May 2000

More volunteers are still needed to help with our Church's effort in the house-to-house collection during the above week.

Please put your name on the list in the Church vestibule or contact -

*Ian Hennell
Worthing 240560.*

Serendipity

For those seeking an evening of fellowship, all are welcome to come along to one of the Thursday afternoons / evenings. Also, as a part of Outreach you are welcome to bring a friend too. Forthcoming events are: -

May 13th 7.30pm - Games evening in the Church Hall.

- *June 15th 7.00pm - Walk over Highdown.*
- *July 20th afternoon - Body Shop Tour.*
- *Saturday August 19th 4.00pm - BBQ.*

Gaynor Anderson Easey

Worthing Area Team Ministry

We are all very sorry that Peter and Eileen are leaving us to return to Newcastle and their roots. We wish them well and ask God's blessing on them as they respond to His call for a new direction in their lives.

This means some fundamental changes for us all within the Team and some adjustment to a new approach to the ministry.

Here at Goring, this is where we begin to feel the benefits of the Team. This is not a vacancy in our church as we have known before, but a Team vacancy and we will continue to receive ministerial oversight from Margaret and Norman.

Already the March District Council has declared the vacancy and the Vacancy Committee has had its first meeting. The Team profile is being prepared so that as soon as possible we may explore a new candidate for the Team. This is all very positive and hopeful, and we pray that under God's guidance a new minister will approach us very soon to complement those already in the Team.

Roy Gooderham, Paul Redman and myself are your representatives on the Vacancy Committee. Do talk to us about what you hope to see in a new minister.

Matters of pastoral concern and visiting may be referred to your Pastoral Elder as always, and these will be relayed to Margaret. She is developing the pastoral ministry in all four churches. We cannot expect her to be spread too thinly and we will have to learn in this new situation.

DAY OF PRAYER Thursday 1st June

The day of prayer on the 1st June will be specifically for the Worthing Area Team.

Please share in this special day.

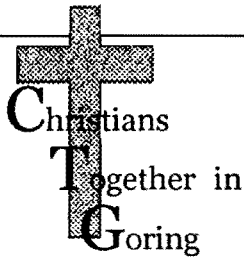
Team Service Sunday 21st May

This is a shared annual service to which we hope that as many of you as possible will come to encourage the Team ministers and members.

This year new Lay Representatives for St Columba's, Mrs Linda Wilton, and Shelley Road, Mrs Sue Prentis, will be commissioned to the Team. The service is at 6 pm at St Andrew's, Rustington, preceded by tea at 5pm.

Do come and enjoy this shared fellowship and worship. If transport is a difficulty, please ask for help.

Jane Bond



In celebration of 2000 years of Christianity, a Songs of Praise Service - PRAISE 2000 - has been arranged for Sunday, 16 July at 3pm, to take place on the Greensward at the end of Alinora Avenue. A considerable amount of preparation has already taken place but much still remains to be done, particularly in connection with preparations in the week-end commencing Friday, 14 July. We need volunteers to help in connection with the collection of equipment and in preparing the site on Sunday morning 16 July.

Please consider if you can help and, if so, either telephone Philip Boobyer on 247884 or Eric on 244157.



PLEASE PRAY for this important Songs of Praise to be held on the beach Green in Goring on Sunday, 16th July. The following prayer pointers are for your guidance.

Thanking God for Jesus

1. For the Holy Spirit's inspiration in the planning.
2. For the right hymns, songs and readings to be chosen.
3. For the right clergy to take part.
4. For Malcolm Chilton, the musical director, especially as he auditions singers from the Goring churches in mid-May who will help lead the worship.
5. For the right musicians to be chosen to take part.
6. For Philip Boobyer and Arthur Richards as they arrange the technology.
7. For adequate transport of equipment to be provided.
8. That the event will bring glory to God.





JOINT CHURCHES PRAYER GROUP FOR GORING

This is held on the second Monday in the month at 2.30pm in one of the Goring churches in sequence, under the auspices of Christians Together in Goring.

Please come and pray for this beautiful area of Goring in which we worship - there is so much going on in the Community which needs our prayer cover.

Dates for your diary:

- May 8th - St. Laurence's C of E, Sea Place.
- June 12th - Goring Methodist Bury Drive.
- July 10th - English Martyrs R.C., Goring Way



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SUSSEX CHICHESTER TO ARUNDEL PILGRIMAGE: SATURDAY 27 MAY 2000

An easy 12 mile walk through some beautiful countryside along bridleways and minor roads, except for getting out of Chichester and into Arundel. There will be a service in Chichester Cathedral at 10.30am and the walk will begin at 11am. The route will go through Westhampnett, Boxgrove and Slindon; there will be a short act of worship at each place. A short final service will be held at Arundel Cathedral at about 5pm. Advanced registration will help ensure safety and an adequate number of stewards, orders of service etc. Walkers should bring their own food and drink. No dogs or other animals will be allowed. There will be some limited transport in the morning from Arundel to Chichester and back to Chichester after the service at Arundel. Early pre-booking for transport is essential.



*Information & notification: Will Pratt, Church House,
211 New Church Road, Hove BN3 4ED;
tel: 01273 421021;
email: media@diochi.org.uk*

SUSSEX WEST DISTRICT REPORT: March 30th at Brighton

The meeting was opened with devotions led by the President Rev Marie Roe.

The meeting began with an illustrated talk by Rev John Crocker who had been to Samoa to attend the CWM Council meeting held there last June. He showed us a wide range of slides including pictures of the local churches, one of which is the memorial to John Williams who took the Gospel to the West Indies. We saw council in meeting, all very warm with electric fans to move the air but no air conditioning. John met with a number of delegates from around the world church and offered to respond to invitations from churches should they wish him to speak about CWM and his experience.

Executive Council Report

The meeting was asked to concur with the call of Rev Peter Heckels to St George's Church at High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne. The meeting did concur and recorded appreciation for Peter's service, in particular for his 3 year's work as Pastoral Care Convenor, and for his role in the development of the Worthing Area Team.

Rev. Charles Martin will be the new Pastoral Care Convenor, assisted by Rev Peter Newell.

Representatives at General Assembly will be Revds Kenneth Lynch, Charles Martin and one other, Mrs Karen Hanox, Mr Ian Chalmers and Mr Desmond Curry.

Mr Ian Chalmers was congratulated on his new appointment as Synod Representative to Mission Council.

Churches were urged to send back their Vision statements, ready for final proposals to be discussed at the next District Council to be held at Goring URC on June 22nd 2000

Lewes Road is to receive a grant from the New Growth Fund in support of their outreach.

Churches are commended to consider taking part in the Millennium Mexican Wave (see April Chronicle).

Pastoral Care Committee

Mrs Nancy Welch was appointed as Interim Moderator for Littlehampton. With the call of Rev Peter Heckels to St Georges Church, High Heaton, District was asked to declare a vacancy within the Worthing Area Team. District agreed. In view of this vacancy and the fact that Littlehampton is scoped 75% the committee proposed that the extra 25% from Littlehampton could be allocated to The Worthing Area Team until such time as a new Stipendiary minister is called. Then the position would be reviewed again. This scoping would be a District appointment. This was agreed.

It was proposed that Rev Geoffrey Haigh be Interim Moderator for the vacancy in the Worthing Area Team. This was also agreed.

A request for Mr Ian Fletcher, Secretary at Horsham, be authorised to preside at Holy Communion on Easter Day, also Janet Dawson and Joy Crumble to preside respectively for one year, was granted.

(Continued on page 10)

(District Report continued from page 9)

Property & Finance

A report from the consultation day for District & Synod Treasurers which was held in Swanwick recently was made available. All need to know the national policy for Ministry & Mission requirements for 2001 and beyond. If you would like to see the details your District Rep. has the paper.

Please also see our own Treasurer about Gordon Brown's tax relief for donations to charity and collect a new easy form.

Ecumenical Report

The Congregational Union of Scotland is becoming part of the United Reformed Church, adding 12 new Synods.

Saturday May 27th: Walk of Ecumenical Witness, Chichester to Arundel. Worship at 10.30 am at Chichester Cathedral followed by 12 mile walk ending at Arundel Cathedral at 5.00 pm. Walkers can join the route for shorter distances, details available.

Lent Course "All Together Now" is also suitable for house groups outside Lent.

Jubilee 2000 primarily campaigns for Third World debt relief and also aims to make churches aware of the necessity to seek forgiveness for past wrongs committed by Christians in the name of Christ - and doing so in a spirit of humility coupled with a willingness to receive from others.

The RC Bishop of Arundel and Brighton is to become the new Archbishop of Westminster, and the Anglican Bishop of Chichester will retire on Jan 31st 2001

Evangelism Report

District Evangelism & Mission Enablers (DEMEs) Linda Ashford and Martin Hayward were commissioned at Synod in March. Linda will work in Sussex West until another is appointed. (The remaining four will probably be appointed by the end of May). The Jesus film has been used successfully in bridging the gap between church and unchurched people. Rev Charles Martin has more information about this outreach if we wish to make use of it. The film Miracle Maker was also commended.

District Youth Committee

The day for leaders for the under 5s held at Goring went well, giving time to the 'Good Practice' document, disruption, organising time, and ways to use music & drama. Crib sheets are available from Paul West.

Training day for *all leaders* will be held at Sompting on November 4th., with Howard Nurdan.

Weekend of fun to be held again at Coldwaltham 7-9th July. Junior Church have details.

At the close of the meeting The Revd. Kenneth Lynch was inducted as District President for the next two years. He gave an address to Council, and used prayers from the service order for the joining of the URC with The Congregational Union of Scotland, before presiding at the District Holy communion service. Full notes and District papers available from your District Representative: Hilary Redman. The date of the next meeting: June 22nd at Goring URC. Will you be there?

Hilary Redman

How does your church respond?"

Last month an attempt was made to show how Southern Synod is seeking to make the best use of the scarce but precious resource of stipendiary ministry. In this third and final article each church is being encouraged to ask, "What is the Holy Spirit saying to your church? What is your appropriate response?" Already different responses are emerging.

For instance:

1. "We'll sit and wait until the District Council tells us what to do."
2. "Our minister was only recently inducted, so we're safe for the time being."
3. "We've always had our own minister, and " no reason for that to change now."

Thankfully, not many have reacted in that way.

More often it is:

1. "We recognise the challenge and accept the need to look at ministry differently."
2. "A new relationship is developing with a nearby church of another denomination, and we want to explore how we might work together more closely."

"The ministry of our church lay leader is a blessing to us all and is a form of ministry that other churches would do well to consider."

But how do you respond? Whatever your answer may be, every local church or pastorate is being asked:

1 To produce a simple vision statement - which looks at what your church is here for, what it does well, how it assesses and meets the particular needs of the local community, what is distinctive about its worship and mission, and where it believes God is leading it in the next few years.

2 To write a job description for a stipendiary minister - with relevant and realistic expectations of the minister's role and responsibilities in your setting.

(Continued on page 22)



May Day Bank Holiday

Mon	1	2.00pm	Church Ramble starting from the Church (see Page 3)
Tue	2	2.30pm	Women's Guild. West Sussex Towns Women's Guild Federation Choir
Thu	4	From 7.30am	Day of Prayer

Sun	7	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion
		6.00pm	Evening Worship

Thu	11	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
Sat	13	2.00pm	Table Sale (see Page 5)
		7.30pm	Games Evening

Sun	14	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Junior Church Anniversary
		6.30pm	CTG. Bury Drive Methodist

**** Last day for June Chronicle material**

Tue	16	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Annual General Meeting.
	10-5 Daily		Christian Resources Exhibition. 16th-19th.

Sat	20		Team Elders' Day at East Wittering
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Christian
Aid
Week
14th-20th
May

Sun	21	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship. Christian Aid Thanksgiving.
		5.00pm	Tea at St Andrew's, Rustington followed by -
		6.00pm	Worthing Area Annual Team Service also at St Andrew's }

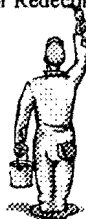
page 6 for more
information

Thu	25	7.30pm	Church Meeting
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Sat	27	10.30am	Chichester Cathedral short service followed at 11.00am with the walk to Arundel. Page 8 for details.
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Sun	28	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
		10.30am	Family Worship
		6.00pm	Worthing Area Team Evening Worship

Tue	30		Church Buildings Start of Exterior Redecoration. See page 4
		2.30pm	Women's Guild Outing





Thu 1 From 7.30am Worthing Area Team Day of Prayer

Sat 3 Last painting day for this session.

4 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 6 10.00am-12.00n
2.00pm-4.00pm Manse Open Day with Eileen & Peter.
7.00pm-9.00pm

Thu 8 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 10 Jesus Day. Read about it on page 21.

11 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Worthing Area Team Evening Worship

Tue 13 3.00pm Mission & Guild Tea

Thu 15 7.00pm Highdown Walk. Page 5 Serendipity

18 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion.

**** Last day for
July Chronicle material**

Thu 22 7.30pm Sussex West District Council Meeting at Goring URC

Sat 24 ???????? ??? Watch this space and keep this day free ???

25 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 29 7.30pm Church Meeting.

Peter & Eileen's
last week-end
with us



Looking ahead

Saturday 8th July

Flower arranging workshop.

Sunday 16th July

CTG Songs of Praise - see page 7



The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

1960—1969

It is probably true to say that without exception, everybody who attended Goring Congregational Church in 1960 and 1961 was getting very excited about the new church building that was being erected at the junction of Shaftesbury Avenue and Barrington Road. A monthly progress was being reported in the Chronicle :—

December 1960

The skeleton pre-cast concrete framework of the central area of the church and the transepts is completely up and looking very impressive

January 1961

Concrete foundations 90% complete. Oversite hardcore 90% complete. The north wall has reached eaves level. The east wall with its echelon windows are showing shape.

March 1961

The appearance of the south brickwork, including the vestibule entrance is nearing completion. Date for opening fixed

May 1961

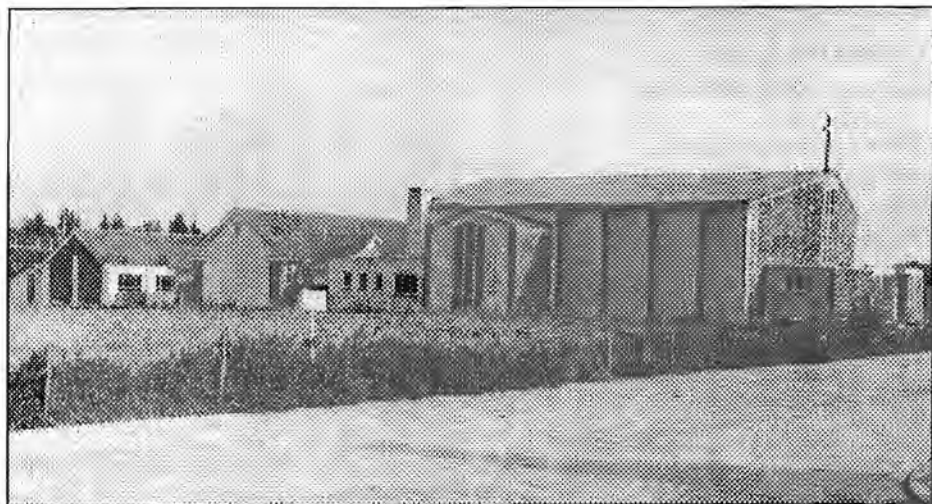
Work is now being concentrated on the inside of the building. Boarding of the suspended ceiling in progress. Plasterers now covering the large surfaces of the north and south walls also between the echelon windows. Glaziers are putting the glass in.

July 1961

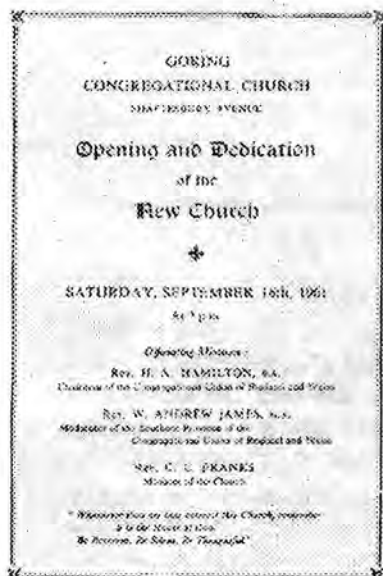
Church members were able to have a peep at the inside of the church during gift day and most were surprised at the expanse of the building. This month the floors are being laid and decorating under way. A start will be made this month on the installation of the organ.

August 1961

Electrical lighting is now under test. Now we are taking over the new building, may I suggest that we forget such questions as ... it is a pity this wasn't done, or that wasn't larger, or whether something would have been better. What matters now is the spiritual devotion within the church. ... and so we come to the consecration of our new church, to the work and glory of God.



A Golden Day for a Golden Occasion



The Chronicle October 1961:-

"Saturday the 16th September dawned glad and golden, could it remain so all day for THE DAY? It could and did, so setting the scene for such a momentous landmark in the history of Goring Congregational Church. The golden sunlight flooded in bringing added beauty to that created by the architect and all those who carried out the vision of a House of God for this present age. The VIP's took their seats ... the architect presenting the Chairman of the Congregational Union of England and Wales with the key, asked Mr Hamilton to declare the building open for the high purpose to which it was to be dedicated. To the quiet tones of the new organ the procession entered. Gradually the Processional Hymn swelled into triumphant note as all took their places. All this perfection carried minds and thoughts to the slim central cross on the screen - the empty cross of the risen Lord with below it shining the figure of the Master at the table of the Last Supper - the picture linking the worship of the hall with that of the future."

Memories from Barbara Popplestone

"When I was received into membership in 1959 I joined the choir. Of course we worshipped in the Hall at that time and the choir sat on chairs on the stage. The most important memory that I have of the early sixties was the opening of the new Church building in 1961. We had an augmented choir on this occasion when Shelley Road Congregational Church Choir joined with us and we processed from the hall round into the new building.

Many fund raising events took place prior to the building of the Church, not least being the Nodes' Garden



Parties. These were very popular and cream teas were served with raspberries and strawberries. Christmas Bazaars were also very popular and raised large sums for the Building Fund. The Rev Cyril Franks inspired the Church greatly at this time and those who remember do so with thankful hearts."



Rev & Mrs Wallis Hayward

It wasn't long after the new church was opened that Mr Franks was called to the pastorate at Purley and so it was that with his wife and family they moved from Goring in July 1963.

The Church was in another inter-regnum and many who came to the church during that time saw God's love working within His people and they were overcome by the friendliness and welcoming nature of the fellowship at Goring.

Rev Wallis Hayward came to Goring to preach with a view on Sunday morning April 5th, and then the May Chronicle

reported that Mr Hayward had accepted the Church Meeting's call to minister at Goring Congregational Church. His induction service was on 2nd July 1964 at 7 pm.

In 1967 there was a link with Amberley Congregational Church and for several years members of the choir and congregation would go to Amberley for tea and Sunday evening service. Sadly since then Amberley Congregational Church has closed. The church building is still there, it is now an art studio.

The Dedication of the Cornwall Room took place on 12 March 1967 in memory of the late Mr. Charles Cornwall, founder member.

Caroline Hibbs Memories

"It was in 1962 I joined Girls' Life Brigade (GLB) and was introduced to Goring Congregational Church. There was lots going on in the Church at the time for young people, GLB and BB, which were very strong. Youth Club where we had music, games, sports and nights out, we mixed with other Church Youth Clubs.

There was of course a very good Junior Church, as there still is today. I was only 9 when I joined

GLB and through it and Junior Church I made lots of friends who I still see today.

During the latter part of the decade the local churches formed the 'Goring and Ferring Friendship Society' a group of young people set up to help people in the community. We baby sat among other jobs.

Possibly the worst job was to clean a house for a lady who had been ill and in hospital, so she came home to a clean tidy home. Prior to going into hospital she had been unable to clean up and

her kitchen was full of unwashed dishes: Hilary and Graham did the kitchen, I got one of the bedrooms, which was much easier !! I think about six of us did the job. We never knew who the lady was but her home was ready for when she came home.

I am glad I joined all those years ago lots of people have had an influence on my life and faith, some passed on but some still here, thank you and God Bless, may the work of this church continue and flourish with the young."

Whilst carrying out research into the history of our church I discovered the following in the July/August 1964 copy of The Chronicle - Graham

GARDENING ? - - - - THEN TRY THIS

First plant 5 rows of peas:-

- Preparedness, Promptness, Perseverance, Politeness, Prayers.

Next plant 3 rows of squash:-

- Squash gossip, Squash criticism, Squash indifference.

Then plant 5 rows of lettuce:-

- Let us be faithful, Let us be unselfish, Let us be friendly, Let us be loyal, Let us be truthful.

And no garden is complete without turnips.

- Turn up for Church. Turn up with a smile. Turn up with a new idea. Turn up with real determination.

Then see what a wonderful garden you can grow !

The story continues with the 1970's in June's Chronicle.

RUTH's CHAT

(from the FIELD)

No.22

Pointe Noire, Congo

April 2000



We've got up to 772! - only another 2,435 to check...!

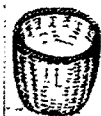
Dictionary entries, that is.



Have you ever thought what making a dictionary entails? For each Mboshi word we enter, there's also the grammatical category, the noun class & plural (for nouns), the French definition (or explanation), an illustrative sentence with tone, the French translation of the illustrative sentence, synonyms, antonyms, derivations, idiomatic uses, etc.



In theory, the data has all been entered into the computer, but checking involves a lot of fine-tuning, picking up on mistakes, etc. We need to have that finished, and the introduction and explanatory notes written, by the end of May. Then comes formatting, scanning in some illustrations, printing and binding, in time for the **Centenary Celebrations of the Catholic Mission in Boundji in August 2000**. These celebrations will include the dedication of the dictionary (as well as, we hope, the setting up of a Mboshi language committee which will begin to take responsibility for on-going language development, literacy classes, etc).



In the meantime, you can imagine that for Roch, Guy, Andrea and myself, **DICTIONARY** looms rather large on our agendas! Please pray that the computers keep working, and that we will have stamina and good health in order to complete the task! (All of the team apart from myself have been sick recently...)

We are also busy with a number of other activities:

- checking and formatting a booklet explaining the Gospel in Mboshi;
- translating into Mboshi a series of Scripture booklets on the life of Jesus;
- holding some informal seminars for people interested in reading and writing Mboshi;

- planning two "Days of Reflection" (15th April & 6th May) for church leaders in Pointe Noire, to present the work of SIL¹ and UBS², and to find out what people think about increased use of Congolese languages in church instead of just French or the trade languages. (The Congolese UBS team really share our vision, and they are giving us a lot of support & encouragement.)

Since we are only four SIL members in Congo, we cannot respond to all the opportunities for language work which are open to us. In February, we sent a Christian University professor to Bangui (Central African Rep.) for an SIL training course in translation principles, in the hope that he can coordinate work on **Bible translation into his own language** (Laari).

¹ The name of our mission in Africa

² United Bible Society

We have been asked to help with two other languages (Mbeembe & Vili) which have parts of the Bible already translated. With this in mind, our Mboshi co-worker Guy will help teach a course in **phonology & alphabet-making** in Cameroon in July, in order to sharpen up his skills in that area so that he can give linguistic help to other language projects in Congo.

We are still planning in the longer term to offer training courses for Congolese right here in Congo. **Larry and Cami Robbins**, who have been living here with us since January, make regular trips to Brazzaville to oversee the gradual transformation of our looted buildings into a **training centre**. There are exciting possibilities for the future, if the country remains stable.

There is a great need for the Word of God to penetrate people's lives! We know from Roch's last visit to the Mboshi-speaking area that the church situation in Boundji is not good - the

handful of small "revival" churches have virtually all stopped functioning due to lack of leaders, but the sects and cults are continuing to grow and attract people.

Here in Pointe Noire I am feeling more settled in the church I attend and **I praise God for the nucleus of people who want to walk closely with the Lord**. I am co-leading one of the home groups which meet during the week - **please pray that my life can be an example for others!**

Gary Dickinson, the American pastor who was quite sick last year, is now back in Pointe Noire following treatment in S. Africa. It's good to see him looking stronger, and to know that God works through weakness!

P.S. Today (8th April) I received a Christmas card & parcel from my London church (via Gabon)! Thanks to all who sent Christmas messages! Please do not send parcels to Congo.

Coming up...

April/May: Dictionary, dictionary & more dictionary! Church days & seminars.

June: Travel to Nairobi, Kenya, to represent Congo-Gabon at SIL Africa area conference. Then in Yaoundé, Cameroon for seminar + short vacation

July: Finalising dictionary, exegesis & translation of Scripture booklets.

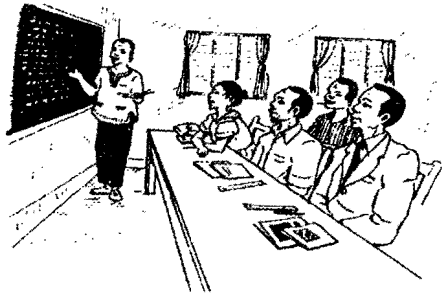
Preparations for Centenary.

August : Move house! (The house where we currently live will be reclaimed by it's rightful occupants!) We will probably stay based in Pointe Noire for a few more months. Travel to Boundji for Centenary, dictionary dedication, & launching of Mboshi language committee.

Thanks for keeping in touch by letter and e-mail! May Jesus be precious to you!

"Dear name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding-place, my never-failing treasury, filled with boundless stores of grace!" (John Newton)

Blessings, Ruth



Ruth Chatfield
S.I.L., B.P. 5111

Pointe Noire

CONGO-BZV

Internet: ruth_chatfield@sil.org

WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS

Horsleys Green, High Wycombe
Bucks HP14 3XL, ENGLAND

This letter is kindly distributed in UK by Miss Helena Hopiavaara, Flat C, 10 Valley Road, Streatham, London SW16 2XN. Please inform her of UK address change

MISSION EVENT

Guest Speaker from Paraclete Mission
3pm, Tues 13th June, Goring URC Hall

Buffet Tea ~ Bring/Buy ~ Cake Stall

Tickets £1.50 from World Church & Mission Committee or Sheila Gooderham

Items for stall in advance would be appreciated

Tearfund

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the TEARFUND envelope collection. We raised £130. I would also like to thank the World Church and Mission Committee, which donated £50. This money will go in Tearfund general fund to be used to bring spiritual as well as material aid to those in need all around the world.

This will be the largest grass roots Millennium initiative in the World! Up to twenty million people, regardless of race, class or

denomination, will walk the streets of up to two hundred nations expressing the love and forgiveness of our Creator and Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the UK we will be gathering in five major centres to worship and affirm that Jesus is

Jesus Day
Saturday 10th June
2000AD

Lord, pray for our nations and declare that we can make a difference. It is our day to say with millions of others:

"He's worth it."

If you wish to be a part of this great event in London and are prepared to be seen to do something for Jesus contact -

Gaynor(539868) for details.

AN EASTER POEM by Winifred Cooke

When you think of Easter, what does it mean to you?
Do you think of lengthy days ahead, with sunny skies of blue?
Easter cards and Easter eggs in brightness all arrayed?
Or do you think of sins forgiven, for a price so dearly paid?
Three crosses high upon a hill for everyone to see.
One of them held our dear Lord, in sheer humility.
He hung and suffered just for us, to teach us perfect love.
And help us in our journey on our way to Heaven above.
Open your heart to Lord Jesus let everyone see you care.
His arms are always open wide, we'll find a solace there.

~ Winifred Cooke is a disabled friend of Cath Findlay & Win Marriott ~

*Southern Synod cont'd & The Rowland Singers**(Continued from page 11 Office of the Southern Synod)*

Guidelines for the production of these statements/descriptions are being made available to every church.

You might also prayerfully consider:

- Which other local church or churches, either United Reformed or of another denomination, your church could work with more closely.
- Whether you would be prepared to be part of a team ministry.
- How you encourage and support the elders and other leaders of your church.
- Whether you should explore the possibilities of seeking, or nominating from your own congregation, a local lay leader.
- What part God is calling you to play within the ministry of all God's people.

In seeking to answer these and other questions, please remember that each District Council is working hard to ensure that every local church or pastorate receives adequate leadership and ministry. The District is not "them" - it is "us". We are in this together, prayerfully seeking God's will for the Church in its work and worship, its mission and ministry. Continue to raise these issues with your own church and your District Council. Above all, pray for the guidance we need as we seek to serve Christ faithfully as his people.

From the office of The Southern Synod

Rowland Singers

The Rowland Singers were delighted with the large audience at their Easter Concert held in the Church on the 12th April.

You will be pleased to know that the money received, so far, from the sale of programmes more than covers the choir expenses, so when all the money is in I can let you know the result. It was agreed with all the churches, that after the choir expenses were paid, the balance would be divided between the host church and the choir.

Thank you to all those who came and many said how much they enjoyed the evening. Thanks to to Audrey Gerlach and her helpers for providing the refreshments.

Sheila Gooderham

John Rutter's Requiem, a means of great inspiration to transports of delight led me to Heaven.

With music and voices of this calibre there I saw the insights of Heaven with a vision, somewhat beclouded in tears, of calm and peace with voices resounding in tributes to the presence and glory of the Lord and his angels.

*Thank you,
Pheniah Taylor*

HELEN SHAPIRO GOSPEL EVENING

Sunday 10th September - 6.30pm

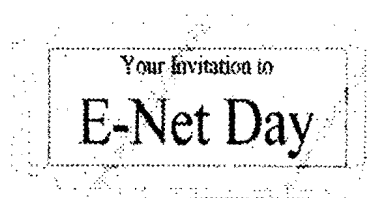
Littlehampton Community School

We have the privilege of welcoming Helen to Littlehampton in September for a Gospel Evening. This is an opportunity to invite friends to hear a very clear Christian testimony.

This is an advance notice so that you can book the date in your Church calendar. Publicity and further details will be available in July. Tickets, at £5.00 each, will then be available.

In 1961 Helen Shapiro was a 14 year-old school girl who achieved international fame with a number of international hit records, including 'Walking back to Happiness'. Helen was born in the East End of London into a Jewish family. She committed her life to Jesus Christ in 1987 and has a wonderful testimony in song and word.

Speaker: Martin Cavender



Thursday 22 June from 10am - 4pm

Reigate park URC, Reigate, Surrey

**The Word Made Flesh -
Evangelism Today**

£6.00 per person

*With love from
Singapore!*

God is doing a wonderful thing in Singapore as his people come together for the purpose of reaching the masses with the gospel.

Many churches are co-operating together and the project 'Love Singapore' is well under way. By the end of this year there will be Prayer Groups acting as 'lighthouses' covering the community.

Another factor in the amazing growth of the church in Singapore is the 'Cell'.

If you are concerned to explore alternative

ways of being church, in order that our communities, too, might be reached with the Gospel - if you are prepared to think differently - and even consider working across traditional denominational lines (something we in the URC shouldn't find too daunting!) come and hear Pastor Naomi Dowdy at :-

***The Vines URC,
Rochester, Kent***

Monday May 15 10am - 4pm
(bring a packed lunch, drinks provided)

*For more details, phone Alan Wharton
01732 453930*

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'I and J'

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Son of Abraham and Hagar.
<div>Gen 16</div> | 6 Prophet whose mission to Nineveh is recounted in the book of |
| 2 Ruler of the synagogue whose daughter Jesus restored to life.
<div>Mark 5</div> | 7 Husband of Mary. |
| 3 Son of Isaac, younger brother to Esau.
<div>Gen.</div> | 8 Son of Abraham and father of Esau
<div>Gen 21</div> |
| 4 King of Judah. Fought against the Syrians.
<div>Kings & Chronicles</div> | 9 Successor to Moses as leader of Israel.
<div>Num 27</div> |
| 5 Our Lord and Master.
<div>No clues !</div> | 10 The one who betrayed Jesus
<div>Matt & John</div> |

Answers: -

- | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1. Ishmael | 2. Jarius | 3. Jacob | 4. Jehoshaphat | 5. Jesus Christ | 6. Jonah |
| | | 8. Isaac | 9. Joshua | 10. Judas | |

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The June edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 4th June. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 21st May.

5 Salvington Hill
High Salvington
Worthing
West Sussex
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

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The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

Print Room Manager: Ken Woods. Telephone 01903 505177

The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

With love from

The Council

General Editor

Editorial Board

Editorial Board

Editorial Board

Editorial Board

Editorial Board

Editorial Board

Editorial Board

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Editorial Board

Can you help me? / Acknowledgements with thanks

Editorial Board

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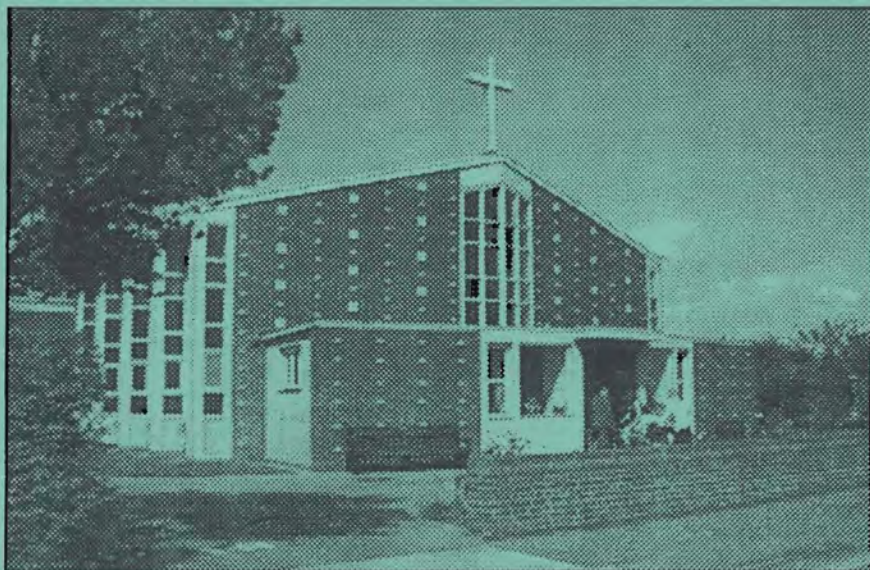
Editorial Board

The CHRONICLE

June 2000

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

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —



In this issue :

- *Junior Church Anniversary.*
- *Ramble report & pictures.*
- *Church Vacancies.*
- *History pages - 1970's.*
- *Peter prepares for Newcastle.*



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

Ministers: Rev. Peter Heckels — Telephone 01903 248259
 Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
 Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

Church Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
 5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
 Telephone: 01903 260568 Fax: 01903 260867

Church Treasurer: Mr Roy Gooderham
 15 Harvey Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS
 Telephone: 01903 506452

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
 51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
 Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Family Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month. - GAS (God's Appreciation Society) - Junior Church with Crèche |
| 6.00pm | Evening Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month. - Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month. |

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 544

June 2000

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from The Manse ... Rev Peter Heckels

Dear Friends,

In October 1993 newly arrived we wrote "In many ways the first letter to any church is probably the most difficult as you don't know the people to whom you are writing". Seven years on we now must say that we were wrong, as when you write the last letter you do know the people to whom you are writing.



So, what do you say in a closing letter?

First a reminder of all that has gone on during our time here has been God's work

and all that has been achieved, has been achieved by God alone. It is God who has guided, led and moulded us, it is he who called and he who has empowered us over the last seven years. In difficult times and in celebration God has always been near prompting, encouraging and directing each day during our ministry with you.

Secondly this is a time to say thank you to all those we have been privileged to work with in all aspects of the life of the church. Mainly however as thank you to each person who has supported and encouraged our ministry among you especially in prayer. For the many prayers that have been offered for our ministry and our family, we praise and thank God. The privilege of ministry is to share at the deepest level with so many people and these are the memories that we will carry forward with us, knowing that we will all share before the throne of our Lord in his time.

So, may we close with words of St. Paul:

"I thank my God for you every time I think of you and every time I pray for you all I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the Gospel from the first day until now. And so I am sure that God, who began this good work in you, will carry it on until it is finished on the Day of Christ Jesus"

(Philippians 1 vs 3-6)

Your servants in Christ,

Peter and Eileen

Open Day at The Manse

Peter and Eileen are having an open day at the Manse before they leave Worthing for Newcastle and would be happy to see you on June 6th any time between,

- 10am and 12noon;
- 2pm and 4pm;
- 7pm and 9pm

Handbook

Phil Heckels new address is :-

1 Clive Court
Clive Avenue
Goring by Sea
WORTHING, West Sussex.

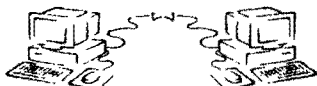
Tel: 07947 734179

E - Mail

Just a reminder if you haven't let me know your E-Mail address yet.

grahamredman@btinternet.com

Thank you, and thank you to those who have already replied.

**Serendipity**

For those seeking an evening of fellowship, all are welcome to come along to one of the Thursday afternoons / evenings. Also, as a part of Outreach you are welcome to bring a friend too. Forthcoming events are: -

- June 15th 7.00pm -
Walk over Highdown.
- July 18th late afternoon -
Body Shop Tour. Numbers by 18th June please to Gaynor.
- Saturday August 13th 4.00pm -
BBQ.

Gaynor Anderson Easey

Table Sale: Saturday 13th May

It was a very happy time spent at the Table Sale on the 13th May. Ten tables had been sold making a contribution of £50 before we sold anything on the church table.

The church sales and the admission price brought in £90. plus. We do thank all of you for your help, your gifts for the stall and also those hard at work on a warm afternoon making refreshments. Thank you all once again for a grand total of £140 for our church funds.

Roy & Sheila Gooderham

Junior Church Anniversary Service



Rev Margaret Ashby, presents the children and young people with certificates and shield as a result of taking part in the Bible Exploration work earlier this year. It was a tribute to the many hours of hard work undertaken not only by the young people but the teachers as well.



Well done everybody who was involved.

Sunday 24th May 2000

Outreach & Evangelism Committee

This is to let you know that we shall be prayer walking the roads in our visitation area during the next few months. We shall start on Monday 5th June meeting at the church at 6.30pm. and again on Monday 17th July. at the same time. If you are unable to be with us please pray for this outreach at home

Sheila Gooderham

CHURCH RAMBLE**Bank Holiday Monday, 1st May**

A group of fourteen of us met in Clapham Church car park on a glorious afternoon.

We set off through the village and were very soon walking through a grassy field full of lovely wild flowers. Although we walked at our own pace, we all met up at the many

stiles along the way. On we went through the woods which were carpeted by masses of bluebells - a beautiful sight, and the perfume was intoxicating.

We stopped for a time of refreshment and a brief rest, allowing time to admire the trees in early leaf and the wonder of God's creation. Then on we went in happy fellowship. We found ourselves high above "Long Furlong", with the rolling hills and fields in the distance. The views from here were stunning. All too soon we began the descent and were back at the church, having completed our circular walk. We paused to have a look inside this ancient place of worship and many would give thanks for such a perfect afternoon. Thank you Eileen and Wilf for organising a most enjoyable event.



Our Church

Church Vacancies - 2000

At our July church meeting we will be electing Elders to serve from September 2000. We shall also be appointing representatives, officers and co-ordinators to serve in a number of ways. The vacancies are set out below. If you would like to offer to help, or if you would like to nominate someone else to take up a vacancy please give details to the Church Secretary *as soon as possible*. The closing date for these nominations is the day of the July Church meeting i.e. July 27th, but an early response would be much appreciated.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Junior Church Leader.
- Junior Church Secretary.
- Junior Church Treasurer.
- Junior Church teacher (s).
- Ark Contact person.
- Monday Club leader/helper.
- 'Tuesday' Club 2 leaders/helpers.
(The day and venue yet to be decided)
- Little Fishes Representative.

SECRETARIES for -

- Free Will Offering.
- Covenanting.
- Church Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE

- Church Treasurer.

CHOIR

- Choir Master.
- Choir members.

COMMITTEES

Church members to serve on the five Church Committees.

EDITOR

- Welcome Editor.

Authorised Person**REPRESENTATIVES for -**

- Provincial Synod.
- Sussex West District.
- Christians Together in Goring .
- Churches Together in Worthing -
- (from November)
- Christian Aid.
- Traidcraft.

CO-ORDINATORS for the -

- Monthly Day of Prayer.
- Sunday morning Readers and Prayers.
- Display of Banners.
- Kitchen & Catering.

Please pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of those whom He would have serve Him here in His church in Goring.

Hilary Redman

The Annual Worthing Area Team Service at St Andrew's

Enjoying a time of fellowship with our sister churches over a cup of tea, sandwiches and cakes before going into church for the evening service.



*- and reluctantly we had to go home,
but there'll be another time.*

C
T
G

Christians
Together in
Goring

*Don't forget * Don't forget * Don't forget * Don't forget *



In celebration of 2000 years of Christianity, a Songs of Praise Service - **PRAISE 2000** - has been arranged for Sunday, 16 July at 3pm, to take place on the Greensward at the end of Alinora Avenue. A considerable amount of preparation has already taken place but much still remains to be done, particularly in connection with preparations in the week-end commencing Friday, 14 July. We need volunteers to help in connection with the collection of equipment and in preparing the site on Sunday morning 16 July.

Please consider if you can help and, if so, either telephone Philip Boobyer on 247884 or Eric on 244157.

A letter from the Southern Synod

25 May 2000

To: All Southern Province URC Church Members
From: The Synod Clerk

Dear Friends,

You may be aware that our Moderator, David Helyar, retires in 2001. We are now beginning the process of looking for the person who will be the new Moderator for Southern Province. At a recent meeting of Provincial Council it was decided that I should write to church members to explain what happens..

There will be a Nominating Group of 20 people. Ten from Southern Province and ten from the National Church appointed by the National Nominations Committee. The National ten have been appointed. Southern Province ten will comprise one representative from each of our seven Districts, 1 young person, the Synod Treasurer and Synod Clerk. The Convenor of the Group is one of the National ten and will be the Revd Sandra Lloydlangston, Synod Clerk of South Western Province, and the Deputy General Secretary, Revd John Waller, will facilitate the Group. Two meetings of the Group have been arranged for 21 September and 15 November and it will meet at Caterham URC. The first meeting concentrates on the "names" which have been received by the General Secretary to be considered for this appointment. No matter how many names there are, the Group has to endeavour to reduce the number to maybe two or three people whom they wish to interview. These people are then approached and asked if they wish to be considered and interviewed. From where do the "names" come? From churches, committees, individuals. Districts, throughout the whole of the URC. If a church or a District has a name which they wish to put forward then it should be sent to the General Secretary. The second meeting of the Group will probably be the actual interviews. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit we hope that one person will emerge as the future Moderator for Southern Province. If not, then we start all over again! Any votes taken within the Group have to have a majority of both Provincial and National ten.

The timescale is that the March 2001 Mission Council appoint this Moderator on behalf of General Assembly. To wait until the July General Assembly is rather late for an appointment which will take effect from 1 September 2001 with all the work and arrangements - and removals - which have to take place before that date.

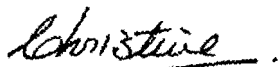
Should anyone, church or District have information, suggestions or comments which they wish to have put to the Group please contact your District Representative on the Group. I suggest that this is done by the beginning of September. I would hope to have a meeting of the Southern Province ten - if they so wish - before the Group has its first meeting. Your District Secretary will be able to give you the name of your District Representative. It is important that the Representatives on the Group are aware of issues from Districts and Youth Forum to be fed into the Group.

To assist the Group it is expected that there will be a "Provincial Profile" - in a document about the life and work, present and possible future, of the Province. A number of key people will be asked to contribute to this Profile which I will collate, along with other general information. It is part of a Synod Clerk's job to make the necessary arrangements and preparatory work for this nominating process but I cannot be the only source of information for the Group. There has to be a wide spectrum of information and input - ecumenical included - as any Moderator has to relate to so many people in all the diverse work of a Province.

The Group will rely on information from the Southern Province members of the Group and on the Profile in helping to find our next Moderator.

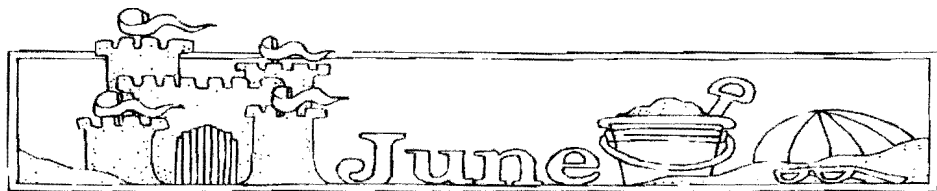
Please remember the Nominating Group in your prayers and that we will indeed be led by the Holy Spirit.

Every Blessing



CHRISTINE P MEEKISON

Synod Clerk: Mrs C.P. Meekison DCS, Synod Office.

for your Diary in 2000...

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 3.00pm Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship with Holy Communion
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Mon 5 6.30pm Prayer Walking

Tue 6 10.00am-12.00n
 2.00pm-4.00pm Manse Open Day with Eileen & Peter.
 7.00pm-9.00pm

Thu 8 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 10 10.00am-12noon Coffee Morning at Lily Collison's home, 39 Reigate Road.
 Jesus Day. Read about it on page 21 May Chronicle.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship
 6.00pm Worthing Area Team Evening Worship

Tue 13 3.00pm Mission Tea

Thu 15 7.00pm Highdown Walk. See page 3 - Serendipity



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship
 6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion.

Thu 22 7.30pm Sussex West District Council Meeting at Goring URC

Sat 24 4.30pm-6.30pm A Farewell Gathering for Peter Eileen & Bill in the church hall
 - see page 16 for details.

This will be Peter's last Sunday with us -



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Worship
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 29 7.30pm Church Meeting.

Fri 30 TBA Junior Church BBQ

Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2000...



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 6 7.30am Day of Prayer

Sat 8 Flower Arranging Workshop



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 11 2.30pm Women's Guild. Strawberry tea

Thu 13 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 15 Peter's Induction Service at Newcastle.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
3.00pm CTG Praise 2000. See page 7
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** Last day for
August Chronicle material**

Sat 22 Visiting Youth camp in the halls for one week.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 27 7.30pm Church Meeting - Elders' Election

Sat 29 Millennium Link, Party in the park. Steyne Gardens. Details to follow



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Worship
6.00pm Worthing Area Team Evening Worship



Looking ahead

Sat/Sun 23rd/24th Sept. Harvest Week-end

Sun 30th Sep - Sun 1st Oct Diamond Jubilee Celebration week.



The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

1970—1979

Goring URC in the '70's by Eric Bond

The 70's were very much times of change for our Church, opening with the Revd. Wallis Hayward as our Minister, one whose ministry was notable for his love and affection for young people. He was keenly interested in the running of the Junior Church, the Youth Club, the Girls' Brigade and the Boys' Brigade, of which he was Captain for a number of years. Retirement in December 1973 loomed for Wallis but before that happened the Congregational Union and the Presbyterian Churches in England and Wales combined in October 1972 to form the United Reformed Church, an event having far-reaching consequences for us all.

In the late '60's, steps were taken to form the Goring (Sussex) Congregational Housing Association, an initiative on the part of the Church to make provision for sheltered accommodation for those of our elderly members who no longer wanted the responsibility for the running of a house or flat. After years of planning and fund raising, 2 Shaftesbury Avenue was purchased and modified to provide five Flatlets. In June 1974, Revd. Wallis Hayward returned from retirement to officially open the house, named after him.



The Rev H W Theobald (right), interim moderator hands over the keys to the Rev Wallis Hayward who opened the Flatlets on Saturday 2nd June 1974.

After an interregnum of approximately six months, Revd. William Connelly accepted a call from the Church to be its Minister and was inducted in August 1974, leading to a caring ministry which extended over 17 years in which the Church continued to thrive. Like Wallis before him, William was keenly interested in developing work among children and young people and promoted several initiatives in this area of the Church's ministry to the community.

Mr & Mrs Hayward retire to Otford.

In January 1974 Mr Hayward wrote his last Pastoral letter in the Chronicle before retiring with Mrs Hayward to Otford in Kent. In his letter he thanks the members for all that they had meant to them, for the friendship that they shall never forget. He said that there is a future for this Church, greater than its past has ever been and that their part will be to remember us in their prayers, to pray for the Church's guidance into a new ministry and then for the inspiration and sustaining of that ministry.

It was during the late 1960's that the Anglican and Methodist churches were discussing the possibility of a union. Also at about that time two other churches were discussing union, those being the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England & Wales.

- see page 13 for fuller story.



The retirement of Mr & Mrs Hayward coincided with Miss D M Walsh standing down as Chronicle Editor, and Mrs Barbara Popplestone taking over responsibilities. It was only a month or two before Rev William Connelly then at present the minister at West Bridgeford URC was called to Goring to 'preach with a view' on 17th February 1974.

Mr & Mrs Connelly moved to Worthing with their family at the end of July ready for his induction service to take place on Friday 2nd August.

Jimmy James

Do you remember Jimmy James, our caretaker at the time and for many years before that? He was a quiet unassuming and lovely man, always at the church working, and always ready to help whenever you may have called in. I can remember calling in to the church early one morning before catching the train to London, this was about six in the morning, and yes he was there to greet me! When he was not 'caretaking' he was there at weddings and funerals complete with gown looking very smart and 'being just the part.'

Graham Redman

Reminiscences of the 1970's

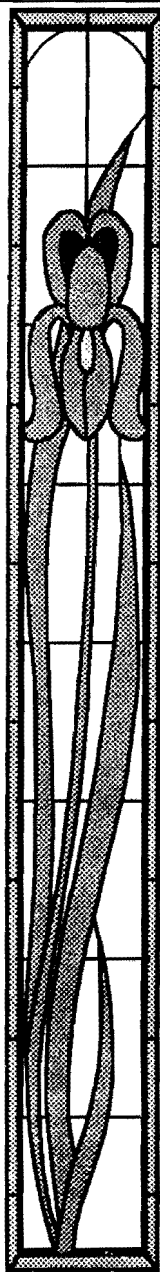
- by Geoffrey Dean

Glen and I and her mum came down to Goring in 1973 to be near our two daughters who were new members of the Church and introduced us to it. Most of our grandchildren were baptised here so it was very much a family church.

Barbara and her husband, John Titlow were very active in the Junior Church and it was in 1975 that they went off to Westminster College for John to be trained in the ministry and we remember so well the coach load that went off to Bath, with many of you in support, to attend John's ordination and induction at Combe Down URC. We arrived back in Goring well after midnight. Our joining of the church was a time of great change with Mr Hayward retiring from his ministry, Mr Theabold (do you remember his deep sonorous voice) serving as interim moderator and Mr Connelly starting his expansive ministry with great gusto. There were great increases in membership and our church handbook records 357 members at 1st July 1979. Our giving (including Tax Refunds for 1979 was £11000 compared with last year's £43000. Allowing for inflation and the fall in numbers, I think we are doing well today.

It was not long before I found myself involved in eldership, Junior Church and a weekly Bible Study Group (in most days as host). The seventies were great days for our young people and I remember well the great pleasure of serving with Don Stewart in the Bible Class. He of course led our Boy's Brigade and Jean Webb our Girl's Brigade and they had great camps in places as far as the Broads and Felixstowe. It is as long ago as that that the Girl's Brigade provided us with our hearing aid loop system - do you remember ?

Glen and I thank the Lord for the loving fellowship we found at church in the seventies and pray this will continue in this the years of the seventies of our times.



The story continues with the 1980's in July's Chronicle.

Did you know that -

Presbyterian and Congregational ministers in London achieved a short lived 'happy union' in 1690 ?

In 1700 Isaac Watts began writing hymns - 'When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died.'

The Wesleys' revival (1740 -) boosted flagging Congregationalism but younger Presbyterian ministers were increasingly attracted to unitarian theology.

Congregational churches founded a national union in 1832 and expanded in the new towns and rising middle classes.

An international Alliance of Reformed (Presbyterian) churches was formed in 1875.

Presbyterianism was boosted by Scots moving south to business and industry; for a while they remained in a Synod of the Scottish Church but in 1876 a united Presbyterian Church of England was formed.

Congregationalists started to hold international councils in 1891.

By the turn of the century there were as many Freechurchmen as active Anglicans in England, but the tide was turned by biblical criticism, social mobility and disillusionment bred by the Great War.

Presbyterians & Congregationalists joined in the United Church of Canada (1925), the Church of Christ in China (1927), and a union of Congregationalists and some Presbyterians created the United Church of Christ in the USA in 1957.

An English attempt to unite the two churches failed in 1947, but in 1952 a covenant 'to walk together' led to some local united churches.

Present discussions began in 1963. The parliamentary bill received the Royal Assent on 29th June 1972. THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH was constituted on 5th October 1972 with 2000 congregations, 1900 ministers & 200,000 members.

There is more to read in an insert with this magazine

A new Church

The Reform November 1972 reports, *John Huxtable, self giving pastor to the Congregationalists as their minister-secretary for over six years, was the 'right man for the right moment' ; and after leaving the Hall to don his robes of Right Reverence, he was installed as the new Church's first moderator.*

'We have made history', he said in an address of admirable brevity and delightful wit. 'We can hardly be thankful enough that God has brought us to the goal towards which we have been working for nine years'.



The above excerpts from Reform are reproduced here with kind permission of its Editor.

Newcastle is calling -

Bill, Peter & Eileen back home.

Come to say "Good-bye" at a

Farewell Gathering

In the church hall

Saturday 24th June 2000

From 4.30pm to about 6.30pm

Tea provided

Entertainment

Etc. etc . . .

SHELLEY ROAD

Would like to host a Team Social Event in the autumn

A BARN DANCE

SATURDAY 14th OCTOBER FROM 7.30 pm

Please could you put this in your diary

More details later

Can you name these people, all beginning with ‘L and M’

1 Brother of Martha, raised from the dead by Jesus. John 11 -	6 A prophet in Isaiah’s time - the last book of the Old Testament
2 Great leader who led Israel out of Egypt. Exodus & Deuteronomy	7 Author of the second Gospel
3 Elder sister of Moses & Aaron. Ex 2, Num12	8 Author of another Gospel and Acts.
4 Sister of Mary and Lazarus in whose house Jesus stayed. Luke 10 & John 11	9 Tax collector Matt 9 & 10
5 A business woman from Thyatira converted at Philippi Acts 16	10 The mother of Jesus Matt & Luke

Answers: -

6. Micah

7. Mark

8. Luke

9. Matthew

10. Mary

1. Lazarus

2. Moses

3. Miriam

4. Martha

5. Lydia

A WORLD OF DRUGS

Most cultures have used and abused drugs and alcohol for religion, medicine or pleasure. Ancient Egypt used alcohol and opium, Hindu rituals and Chinese medicine used cannabis, and many Christian communion services use alcohol. Queen Victoria, psychologist Sigmund Freud and anti-slavery Christian William Wilberforce regularly used opium, while Martin Luther, the great theologian, was a competitive drinker. Today, most people take drugs at some point, often for medical reasons. They learn to increasingly rely on drugs to solve their problems.

This mentality is a key reduction programmes.

We also look at the war on drugs and the case for controlled legalisation. Thinking Mission gives a holistic Christian approach to drugs involving personal integrity, social care, campaigning for justice, and evangelism.

Most Christians, like the rest of society, have views on drugs shaped by media reports and political and religious speeches that demonise drugs and addicts. The Church should encourage a more rational debate that emphasises the inherent worth of people, addicts included, made in the image of God.

Nick Sireau

Reproduced by kind permission of the CWM

MISSION EVENT

**Guest Speaker from Paraclete Mission
3pm, Tues 13th June, Goring URC Hall**

Buffet Tea ~ Bring/Buy ~ Cake Stall

One of the most important things Jesus told us before he ascended into heaven was to go into all the world and make disciples. Not many of us are chosen by God to do this work, but we can support those who do. At the Mission Event this year we shall hear from Rev. Ray Whittle of the work done by the Paraclete Mission in Zimbabwe and in Spain. Please come and support this outreach. There will be a buffet tea, a cake stall and a bring-and-buy table for which we shall appreciate your gifts - in advance if possible. Tickets are £1.50 and you can obtain these from any member of the World Church Committee (please see page 9 of the Church Handbook) or me.

Sheila Gooderham

MOZAMBIQUE

Poverty kills 11 children every hour

An average of 11 children die every hour in Mozambique because of the poverty in which hundreds of thousands of families live, said the All Africa News Agency.

Over 62 per cent of Mozambique's 15 million population live in poverty. The National Health Service covers only 15 per cent of the population. There are no hospitals in the rural areas, and where any exist people have to walk long distances, without ambulances or other means of transport.

This has led to thousands of children dying, said Dr Lillie James, the head of the Family Health Division in the Mozambique Ministry of Health.



Joanne Garsden

Poverty is widespread in Mozambique

UNITED KINGDOM

Churches launch campaign to revive faith

UK churches are trying to revive faith in Jesus Christ as church attendance numbers and belief in God has hit a record low, said the Conservative News Service (CNS).

Eight per cent of Britons regularly attend church, a 35 per cent drop in 20 years, and the number of professed atheists has increased to 27 per cent from two per cent since 1950.

If attendance keeps dropping at the same rate, most churches will be empty in 20 years, CNS said.

The One Step Closer campaign aims to win people back to church. Pop singer Sir Cliff Richard is backing the programme, which encourages churches to be more open to spiritual seekers. Billboards with the messages "Religion is dead" and "God isn't religious - why should you be?" are appearing across the country.

Reproduced by kind permission of the CWM

A cry for help

Many small churches in Wales are struggling as members drift away and interest in Christianity wanes. Elizabeth White explains the problems facing her congregation.

Trinity Presbyterian Church was built in 1916 in Cefn Fforest, a small village in South Wales created in 1909 for the men working down the local coal-mine. Now the mining industry has gone, and the small factories in the area are mainly staffed by women. The miners, many of whom suffer from mining diseases, are on sickness benefit.

The church is struggling. It has always had many children, but as they grow up some move away and others go to more popular churches. We now have about 100 children a week, but only 10 church members, all women, aged from their mid-30s to 90-years old.

Our minister, Rev Judy Ford, has seven village churches in her pastorate. We feel we need someone in Cefn Fforest alone, although the job would not be easy.

Cefn Fforest also has an independent

Baptist church, a Church of Wales congregation, and a Gospel Hall church. The only time any of them work together is at the annual witness march, when the Baptists and ourselves walk around Old Cefn Fforest - to do the estates would be too much - and hold an open air service

There is little community feeling in the area anymore. The villagers hide behind a plastic facade of what they think is expected of them. They strive for more material things to achieve success, but they never seem satisfied. The church held a survey of the village which showed concern about the effects of drugs and alcohol on the community.

When it is dark there are often large groups of teenagers in the centre of the village. Last winter police vans and cars drove around to disperse these groups. They have not responded to activities organised for them.

We'd be interested in any help or advice readers may offer.

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Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The June edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 2nd July. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 18th June.

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High Salvington

Worthing

West Sussex

BN13 3AT

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Print Room Manager: Ken Woods. Telephone 01903 505177

The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

July 2000

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

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —



*Rev Peter & Mrs Eileen Heckels
move from the
Worthing Area
Team to a new
pastorate in
Newcastle*



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

Ministers: Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

Church Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 Fax: 01903 260867

Church Treasurer: Mr Roy Gooderham
15 Harvey Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS
Telephone: 01903 506452

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Worship
- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- GAS (God's Appreciation Society)
- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship
- with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month.
- Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month.

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 545

July 2000

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 Rowland Singers.
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from The Manse ... Rev Margaret Ashby

Dear Friends

As many of you know, Norman, my husband, and I have recently returned from holiday abroad and I would like to share with you the experiences we had of two churches we visited. Just now as we consider the way forward for the Worthing Team it was good to be able to attend worship at churches somewhat different from our own.

The first church we attended was an Episcopalian church which could be described as "very British" and was not so very different from the church in Goring. Worship, praise, compassion and sincerity were very evident as was the warmth and friendship of other members of the congregation towards us. Worship at the other church which we attended, though, was unlike anything we were used to and was quite remarkable. However, even though it was so different we really felt part of the family of people who were worshipping and praising God at that time in that place. The Glyde Memorial Church is full of enthusiasm, exuberance and joy. In order to get a seat at all one has to arrive a good while before the service begins.

Looking around us we saw all sorts of people, black, white, oriental, a few quite wealthy, many very poor, the very young and the very old, able and disabled, some people who were deaf and some who were blind - all kinds of people from all sorts of backgrounds. The choir was a gospel choir and when they led the singing about joy and hope we truly felt that joy and hope surging through our minds and bodies as we sang with them. The preacher reminded us of how temporary our lives here on earth really are, and followed that with the message of the utter trustworthiness and reliability of God. Given that a not insignificant number of people in the congregation were affected by Aids, either as sufferers themselves or as families of people with the disease, the profound joy with which that message was received was very moving.

This church has a huge social programme, working with Aids sufferers and their families, helping people who are homeless or disabled, caring for those who are sick, visiting those who are in prison and feeding those who are hungry. The exuberance, joy and enthusiasm which we could see during the service was reflected in the giving of the congregation which supports this large social programme.

During the singing of the last hymn hands came out to us and to everyone else so that the whole congregation was singing as one, holding hands, being together in the service of Jesus Christ and the love of God. This church is not the kind of church which is caricatured as a "happy-clappy" church. Worship was joyful, full of hope and the sincerity was almost palpable. This, then, is a truly remarkable church. I have one question to leave with you. What do you think we can learn from such an experience to help us as we ask God to show us the way forward for the churches of the Worthing team?

With love and blessings to you all
Margaret

Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all who supported my Coffee- Morning with Bring & Buy stall on June 10th.

The weather was so kind to us, and it was a very happy time in fellowship together.

I was able to give £65.00 to our Treasurer for Church funds.

A special thank you to Robin for her help.

Lily Collison



Photo by Doreen Norris

Prayer & Praise

The Prayer and Praise Group has restarted.

We meet at 2.30pm on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Prayer is a vital part of the Church's life and we would welcome anyone would like to join us.

For further information, ring -

Bobby Hitchin, 249580

Christian Aid Week

Ian Hennel thanks all those people who so generously gave their time to deliver envelopes and with the house to house collecting during Christian Aid Week.

As a church we collected £876.19.

Weekday Opening

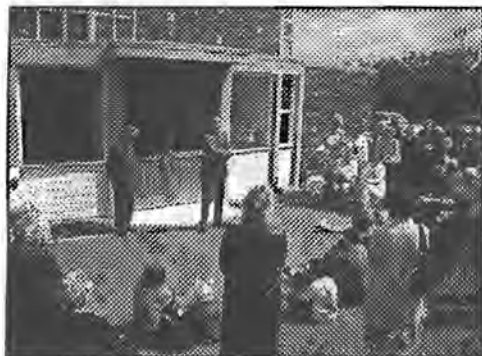
The suggestion has been made that the church could be open at some time during week days to allow people passing, to come inside for a time of quiet and prayer.

To enable this to happen it would be necessary for two or more people to be in the church while it is open. This would be an opportunity for a time to read, sew, pray or just share fellowship. As the church is already open on the first Thursday in the month, maybe we could make Thursday mornings the time most suitable.

If you are willing to spare one or two hours to facilitate this happening please would you put your name on the list in the Vestibule, plus any comments or other times preferred.

The more people participate the less frequent the duty will be.

Robin Bradley.



Dedication of New Doors

On Sunday morning 11th June a pair of much needed new church doors were dedicated by Rev Peter Heckels.

This very short dedication service outside was followed by Mrs Pheniah Taylor officially opening the doors for the first time to let the people, old and young alike, through for worship.

These beautiful American Oak doors with glass panels were generously given to the Church by Pheniah in memory of her late husband Mr Charles Taylor who was a much loved member, steward and non-serving Elder of this church from 1988.

Charles loved his Church, his fellow Christians and his saviour Jesus Christ.

He died on the 12th September 1998



The House & Fabric Committee thank everybody who so kindly helped with the outside decorating of the Church Hall.

The weather was kind to us which spurred us along to get the job completed within the week, and apart from a little touching up the painting was completed on time. We now have a much smarter Hall!

Rowland Singers Easter Concert

Thank you to those who came to the Rowland Singers Easter Concert, in our church on Wednesday 12th April - Can you remember that far back?

After all the monies were collected in and the choir expenses paid, we have handed over the sum of £53.00 to the Treasurer, which together with the £30.00 donation we made for use of the church, makes a total of £83.00 for church funds.

Thank you as well to Audrey and her helpers for preparing the refreshments for so many people.

Sheila Gooderham

Church Vacancies - 2000

At our July church meeting we will be electing Elders to serve from September 2000. We shall also be appointing representatives, officers and co-ordinators to serve in a number of ways. The vacancies are set out below. If you would like to offer to help, or if you would like to nominate someone else to take up a vacancy please give details to the Church Secretary *as soon as possible*. The closing date for these nominations is the day of the July Church meeting i.e. July 27th, but an early response would be much appreciated.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Junior Church Leader.
- Junior Church Secretary.
- Junior Church Treasurer.
- Junior Church teacher (s).
- Ark Contact person.
- Monday Club leader/helper.
- 'Tuesday' Club 2 leaders/helpers.
(The day and venue yet to be decided)
- Little Fishes Representative.

SECRETARIES for -

- Free Will Offering.
- Covenanting.
- Church Meeting Minutes.

FINANCE

- Church Treasurer.

CHOIR

- Choir Master.
- Choir members.

COMMITTEES

Church members to serve on the five Church Committees.

EDITOR

- Welcome Editor.

Authorised Person

REPRESENTATIVES for -

- Provincial Synod.
- Sussex West District.
- Christians Together in Goring .
- Churches Together in Worthing -
- (from November)
- Christian Aid.
- Traidcraft.

CO-ORDINATORS for the -

- Monthly Day of Prayer.
- Sunday morning Readers and Prayers.
- Display of Banners.
- Kitchen & Catering.

Please pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of those whom He would have serve Him here in His church in Goring.

Hilary Redman



Farewell Tea Party Saturday 24th June 2000

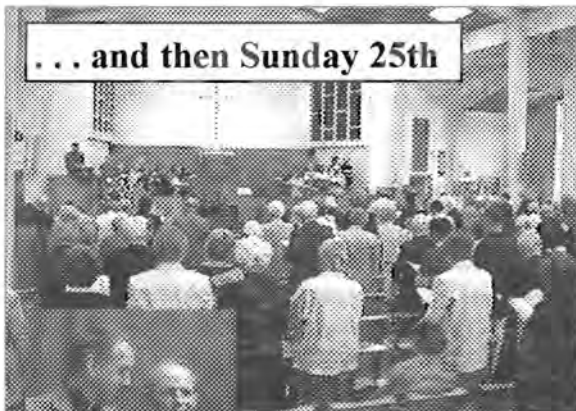
1. Peter chats to friends after tea.
2. Little Fishes give a gift.
3. Hilary Redman presents a £500 cheque on behalf of the Church to Peter & Eileen.
4. Junior Church also have a gift.
5. Joan Burrage & Joan Finlay say their good-byes to Eileen.



Over 110 people came to the Church Hall on Saturday 24th June for tea and to say good bye to Eileen, Peter and Bill. Musical items were presented by members of Junior Church and the choir who sang, there were poems recited by Jonathan Cooper and Eileen Rhodes. The musical group Matt Finish and Two Gloss Coats sang and Val Gill played her accordion.



... and then Sunday 25th



The Sunday Evening Service was attended by members of other churches in the Team and CTG when Peter

reminded us that God's timing is always perfect. Each one of us has a gift from God in order that the church may grow and become a place where people can draw near to God. He asked us to have a good look at each other and praise God for all the good things He is doing amongst us. Paul said, "the greatest gift is love". Love one another because God first loved us. Be at one, be at one in Jesus, be at one in Him. Let His Spirit move among us and rejoice when we see it happening.



WEST SUSSEX YOUTH MEXICAN WAVE

24th June

2000

A group of twelve from Goring URC braved the wet weather on Saturday to take part in the Youth Mexican Wave World Record Attempt. The event took place on the South Downs Way between Amberley and the A24 just North of Findon. The idea was to attempt the Worlds longest ever Mexican Wave. Mexican Waves are usually seen in places like stadiums where people are seated. The wave is formed of people getting up and throwing their arms in the air and then sitting down again in quick succession around the stadium. The longest Mexican wave record attempt was a row of people one deep standing side-by-side over the South Downs. On Saturday the row of people was to be about 8 Kilometres long.

Our group from Goring met at the church at 11:15am with packed lunches. The group then travelled in a convoy of three cars up to North Farm on the A24, (a temporary car park had been formed in a field beside the new road bridge).

At North Farm the weather was dry but it looked very threatening! We took our lunches and set off up onto the downs to join with the thousands of other "wavers". It was a very long trek up to

the meeting point, it took us just under an hour of uphill walking to get to where the event was happening. The youngest member of our group was in a push chair, the terrain was too rough for the chair so both the chair and James Nicholls had to be carried most of the way. During the hike up to the top it only rained twice and after the rain, came the sun so we dried off very quickly. We stopped to eat lunch before we reached the top. After we had had our lunch we only had to walk a short distance before we reached the end of the queue. We had to wait for everyone to arrive and finish the line. While we were waiting we had hot sun, light rain, heavy rain & wind but we were all in good spirits and sang songs to pass the time.

At 2.30 a helicopter flew along the line of people starting at the Amberley end filming the event. The first attempt failed because people were too busy just waving at the camera in the helicopter and not concentrating on doing the Mexican Wave. A second attempt was made but that failed too. The third wave was a success and the wave made it right along from end to end.

It was all over by 3pm and we had a long walk back to our cars, down hill all the

way so not so bad. The added incentive to hurry back was to be at the church for Peter's leaving party at 4.30.

Paul Redman



“Oh what a gift”

A summer celebration of the Bible Society's work, including music and drama.

Wednesday 19th July 7.00pm
Shelley Road URC

Meeting is followed by a light supper - tickets £2.00 each
from Margaret Butcher.

Bring & Buy and Cake Stall

All welcome

Details and leaflets are available in the Vestibule.

This meeting will include a very short AGM.

*There have been some requests to see
the words of the Pentecost Blessing
given at both services on Sunday 25th
June.*

The Pentecost Blessing

Deep warmth of joy and love be yours;
Bright light of sight and life be yours,
Rich glow of fruits and growth be yours;
Fire of the Spirit burn within you.

Energy of God empower you,
Flame of the Spirit anoint you,
Influence of God sustain you.
Breath of God fill you and dwell in you,

Life of God inspire and renew you,
Breeze of God revive and disturb you:
Wind of the Spirit blow through you.

Life giving presence of God stir you,
Unseen power of God strengthen you,
Wellspring of truth cleanse you and lead
you.

The Spirit encourage and guide you,
Creative voice of God direct you,
And kindle adventure within you;
Wild goose cheer you and call you on.

Cranford Murray

churches in the park

churches in the park. serving God. serving the community

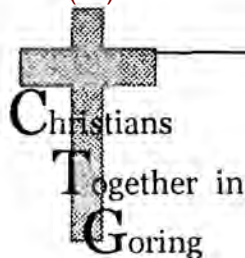
free barbecue!

Steyne Gardens
Saturday 29th July 2000
12 noon — 4 pm

As part of the Millennium celebrations Worthing churches are hosting a massive FREE BBQ with entertainment for Worthing residents and visitors on 29 July between 12 noon and 4 pm in Steyne Gardens.

In association with Worthing Sea Front Fayre, this is a once in a Millennium opportunity to offer a free gift to the people of Worthing, and demonstrate how the church serves our community. There will be church displays, a BIG screen and stage, live music, solo artists, face painting, a MASSIVE paint wall, competitions galore, and much more

"Lots of help will be needed in many ways. If you are willing to take part please talk to me, Doreen Norris"



In celebration of 2000 years of Christianity, a Songs of Praise Service - PRAISE 2000

Songs of Praise
Sunday 16th July
3.00 pm
on the Greensward

Please pray for this important event.

The following is an UPDATE of prayer pointers for your guidance:

1. For the efficient planning of the whole event, especially for Philip Boobyer of the Christians Together in Goring Planning Team.
2. For a good response from the 6 Goring churches to the appeal for volunteers to help with a variety of jobs.
3. For a good response to advertising in church magazines and notice boards, newspapers, shop windows, library etc.
4. For the safe transport of equipment and adequate transport for such to be provided.
5. For the technology, and setting up of the Public Address system.
6. For the Praise 2000 Service and Revd. Michael Hore who will hold it together.
7. For Malcolm Chilton the musical director, and the singers and musicians. For the soloist and others taking part.
9. For warm, dry weather, and good attendance from the Goring churches.
10. For the stewards who will hand out programmes and that many passers by will join in the service.
11. For lives to be touched by the Holy Spirit, and for those who will be available to help any in spiritual need.
12. That the Service might be a living testimony to the love of God for His people.

*Please consider if you can help and, if so,
 either telephone Philip Boobyer on 247884
 or Eric on 244157.*



for your Diary in 2000...



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 6 7.30am Day of Prayer
 2.30pm Prayer & Praise

Sat 8 Flower Arranging Workshop
 - see page 5 of April's Chronicle or speak to Carol Webber.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 11 2.30pm Women's Guild, Strawberry tea

Thu 13 7.30pm Elders' Meeting
 2.30pm Prayer & Praise

Sat 15 Peter's Induction Service at Newcastle



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 3.00pm CTG Praise 2000. See page 11
 No Evening service at Goring URC

**** 16th is the last day for
 August Chronicle material**

Thu 20 2.30pm Prayer & Praise

Sat 22 Visiting Youth camp in the halls for one week.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 27 7.30pm Church Meeting - Elders' Election

Sat 29 12noon-4pm Churches in the park free barbeque
 - details on page 10



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Worthing Area Team Evening Worship

Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2000...



Thu 3 2.30pm Prayer & Praise

Fri 4 60th Anniversary of the first service held at Elm Grove School on 4th August 1940

7.30am Day of Prayer



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion

6.00pm Evening Worship



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service

6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 17 2.30pm Prayer & Praise



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service

6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 20th is the last day for
September Chronicle material**



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion

10.30am Family Service

6.00pm Evening Worship

Mon 28 Bank Holiday



Looking ahead

Sat 9th Sept.

Worthing Area Team Barbeque on the green, Goring. Details next month.

Sat/Sun 23rd/24th Sept.

Harvest Week-end. Details to follow.

Sat 30th Sep - Sun 1st Oct.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration weekend.

Mon 9th Oct.

'Women in Action'. East Croydon URC.

Sat 11th Nov.

Walk Through the New Testament at Central URC, Hove.



Southern Synod

Sussex West District Meeting - Thursday 22nd June 2000

The meeting at Goring URC was opened with devotions led by the Rev Peter Heckels. The President Rev Kenneth Lynch began the evening with a talk "Reflections on Northern Ireland"

Executive Council Report

Personalia: Rev Graham Allen has taken over as Evangelism representative, (vice Rev Charles Martin).

Rev Peter Elliot is now Ecumenical Officer, and leaves a vacancy for Church & Society representative. We are asked to suggest a person for this vacancy.

We are also asked to make nominations for Synod Moderator, our district rep on the Nominating Group is Rev Norman Croft. Dr Helen Davison, of the Church of South India, who is the Medical Superintendent of the CIS hospital at Jammalamadugu will be visiting Brighton & Hove in October following Synod on 14th October.

A date for your diaries: The Integrated Training Team will run a District day based on *Growing up* on March 25th 2002.

We are asked to nominate a person as District President Elect to be appointed in 2001 and to serve as President from 2002-2004. Also to consider a successor for District Secretary

Pastoral Care Committee Rev Simon Franklin has accepted a call to Littlehampton.

District Council was asked to concur. Council received Pastoral consultation reports from Bognor, Petworth and Saltdean UR churches.

Property & Finance Churches are asked to prayerfully consider their level of giving to Ministry & Mission. In 2001 an increase of 3.5% in stipends etc. is envisaged with a decline of membership of 3.5%.

Ecumenical Report/C&S/World Church

Nancy Welch gave us a glimpse of her adventures when she joined "Pilgrim 2000", see April Chronicle.

District Youth Committee

Spectrum a course for Youth work training will be held at Goring June 00- March 01.

Youth - Children's weekend 7-9 July 2000 at Champs Hill, Coldwaltham.

Training Day for Youth & Children's workers Sompting November 4th, 10.00-4.30

Open Seminar "Pastoral Care of Children & Young People" October 28th 10.30- 12.30

At the next Synod the theme will be Youth & Children's work.

Resources now available: Guide to Youth Ministry - How to develop ministry with young people £9.95

URC/Christian Aid/Commitment for Life pack, designed for children to use in Junior Church, after school clubs and at home. Our District Youth contact is Paul West of Sompting URC.

Preliminary discussion on *Growing Up in Sussex West* We are asked to make constructive comments about this paper which is concerned with the future of ministry in the District as a whole. Elders have copies should you wish to borrow one.

Integrated Training Team Howard Nurdén, Youth & Children's Work Trainer, spoke for the Southern Province Training Team introducing us to *TAKE ONE STEP AT A TIME*. The team are available to talk to churches about reaching their full potential in witnessing to the community, and in finding out where they are going and how they will get there. Full notes and District papers available from your District Representative: Hilary Redman

Please consider whether you would like to become the District Representative for Goring. District meets 4 times a year, usually close to Worthing in the winter months but further afield in the summer. The rep is able to vote, needs to circulate information, and report back to the church. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to take over from me, Hilary Redman.

Next meeting: 26th October. All church members are welcome to attend. Venue to be announced.

SOUTHERN SYNOD WOMEN'S LINK



WOMEN IN ACTION

A day for all women to share their faith and worship together

Book the date and inform all Women's groups within your Church.

Monday 9th October

East Croydon URC
Addiscombe Grove
Croydon

10.30am ----- to ----- 3.30pm

Contact: Mary Helyar
Tel. 0208 777 2344

Programme for the day,

10.30 Coffee

11.00 Welcome to everyone
opening Worship conducted by
Rev Daphne Topple

11.30 Any Questions Panel chaired by
Synod Moderator David Helyar

12.45 Lunch
(Please bring your own sandwiches.
Drinks will be provided)

2.00 Thanksgiving Service
conducted by Rev. Sue Marsh with
Jennifer Rees Larcombe speaking to us
about her life and the charity Beauty
from Ashes.

At some point during the day we also
hope to be able to welcome the South
Indian visitors from the Rayalascema
Diocese in the CSI.

3.30 Close of our day together

*If interested in going or requiring more
details, please speak to Carol Webber.*

The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

1980—1989

Memories by Ken Irving -

Vera and I came to Storrington in January 1979 after a short stay in Uckfield which for various reasons had been a wrong move. Wally and Barbara Kimber whom we had known for some years in the Hayes, Kent and West Wickham area were already in the district.

They recommended Goring URC to us and in fact accompanied us on our first Sunday at the church. We have never forgotten the warm welcome we received from Dr Roy Webb as we were greeted at the door by name.

To us the Goring church had much in common with the Hayes church in which we had served for some 25 years. At that time each of the two churches had a membership of over 300 with a good spread of age grouping including young people.

Early in 1980 a Family Weekend under the arrangements of Wally Kimber was held at the small Conference Centre at Fittleworth, the principle speaker being Rev Richard Tucker whom we had previously met, who at that time was minister of Lindfield church. We decided to join Goring thus giving us a good opportunity to get to know members. Subsequently, I served for 3 years as a serving Elder, in addition taking over from Ralph Beale as Treasurer of Hayward House, both Vera and I still serve on its Management Committee.

As we seek God's will in the appointment of a new minister, we both thank Peter and Eileen for their devoted service and pray that we may be led in the days and years to come, especially in the seeking of a new minister for the Worthing Team.

The Chronicle, April 1980 -

The late Ethel Gilby wrote, "It is perhaps appropriate that I have been asked to write about the Church Family Weekend at Fittleworth, since I had no intention of going (not 'my scene' I thought) until at the last minute I decided to join friends who were booked to go and took what was then the one remaining vacancy.

. was the weekend a success? It was indeed an unforgettable experience for those who were fortunate enough to be there. We owe a debt to Mr & Mrs Kimber whose organisation made the whole thing run so smoothly and to all who helped in various ways. and above all we thank God whose presence was so manifestly with us"

Outreach to West Durrington

On retirement to Worthing, Revd. Ron Christopher quickly entered into the life of the Church, endearing himself to all and was appointed as Associate Minister with special responsibility for the development of the Local Ecumenical Project (LEP) at Durrington. In February 1980 *The Chronicle* reported that a steering committee had been at work considering the possible erection of a Community Centre in the new West Durrington shopping area.

The Rev Ron Christopher, serving on this committee was concerned that there should be enough enthusiasm for the project, for without there could not be such a centre. He appealed to anyone living in the Durrington and

Salvington areas who would be willing, as part of the outreach, to open their home for a group of neighbours or acquaintances to meet for social and religious purposes. He especially asked for prayers of the Fellowship, because, he believed the next few months would be decisive for the future.



More about Jimmy

Further to last month's mention of Jimmy James, I too have a story to share.

The Girls Brigade were having a big fund raiser which we had set up in the hall the night before. As we did not want to risk losing any of our valuable stock Jean Webb and I slept on the premises, "camping out" in the Elders Vestry. At what seemed like the middle of the night we were woken by such a loud noise - we thought we were being invaded - but no! - it was Jimmy tending his beloved boiler at ten minutes to six in the morning. What an un-earthly hour! When we got up to investigate I'm sure poor Jimmy was as surprised as we were. He certainly did not expect to see two ladies in their night attire any more than we expected to see him so early in the morning. It caused a lot of amusement all round. Happy days !!

Doreen Norris

The CHRONICLE Editors

Eric Popplestone took over editorship of *The CHRONICLE* from his wife Barbara at the end of 1985. In April 1988 Eric edited what appeared then to

be the last magazine.

Leslie Montford on hearing this news, willingly volunteered to edit the next month's and future *Chronicles*, which of course he did for a number of years.

Bobby Hitchin -

We moved to Worthing from Livingstone Scotland in August 1982, where I had been attending an ecumenical church.

The first Sunday I attended Goring URC with my youngest daughter Helen was at a baptismal service conducted by Rev William Connelly. During the baptismal part of the service he walked around the church with the baby in his arms and gave it to me to hold, it was like coming home as this was always done in my previous church. This confirmed to me

that God wanted me to be at Goring. Very quickly I was invited to join the choir and to serve on the Hayward House Committee, and later still, to serve as an Elder.

During the 1980's the church had a large congregation and large Sunday School. Many of the young people who were with us then are now in heaven, and we miss them. But then as now, this Church is here to show God's love to all who come here.

I thank Him that he sent me here, and for the family of God that worship here.

The Harris Room & Kitchen Extension

By the end of 1985 work was well under way with another extension, the 'Harris Room', the link passage and the kitchen. The Harris Room was especially designed for small meetings.

This extension was built using the legacy given by Miss M. E. Harris a member of the church until she died in 1973. Her gift was to be invested and used 10 years after her death for any purpose that the church deemed fit.

Various people contributed to its furnishings; Mr Fred Marsh making the wooden cross which hangs on the wall.



Arthur Mercer : Some people may remember, our friend Arthur Mercer a member of our church for many years and Junior Church teacher who made and fitted the oak panel doors into the new church building in 1961. They have been in use and seen by the many who have entered into this this house of God. It is mentioned here because new doors have very recently been hung, the originals lasting almost 40 years. Arthur died in May 1984

DURRINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENS

On the 2nd November 1984 the Mayor of Worthing handed the keys of the Durrington Community Centre to the Chairman of Community Association who then requested Rev Ron Christopher to dedicate the building. The ceremony was followed by a reception attended by members of the Worthing Borough Council. The first service to be held at the Centre was on the first Sunday in Advent, 2nd December 1984.



ACTIVITIES

- * CRIBBAGE CLUB * DANCING CLASSES * MUMS & 1ST BABY CLUB
 - * BROWNIES & GUIDES * MOTHERS, TODDLERS CLUB & PLAYGROUP
 - * WHIST * COFFEE BAR - Open 10.15 a.m. - 4 p.m. Daily * KEEP FIT
 - * SUNDAY SERVICES - 10.30 a.m. ECUMENICAL supported by
Methodist & United Reformed Churches. ALL WELCOME
 - * BOOKINGS TAKEN - For Weddings.
- Office open for enquiries 9 a.m. - 12 noon daily*

The story continues with the 1990's in August's Chronicle.

**and in September we shall look at what has happened so far in
2000 and have a look ahead.**

**The October Chronicle will feature a report and pictures of our
Diamond Jubilee celebration weekend.**

Pray with us -



United Congregational Church of Southern Africa Namibia Synod

Namibia will have its third national and presidential elections in December 1999, so please pray that God will guide the process and the situation afterwards. Pray also that peace and stability will prevail in Namibia as rebels in the Caprivi region of Namibia killed and wounded people recently, and Namibian soldiers are fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

AIDS is a major problem in Namibia. The country is third on the list of those most affected by the virus and many children are orphans because their parents have died.

Please pray for people suffering from AIDS and for their friends and relatives, and that the church will support all of them.

The economy is struggling and unemployment is high. This leads to more crime and violence, particularly against women and children. Pray that men will turn from crime and look after others.

Steve Titus

Hong Kong Council of the Church of Christ In China

Hong Kong is still struggling to recover from the recession of the past two years. Please pray that the leaders of Hong Kong will learn from the crisis. Pray also that people will express their ideas and participate in the political and economic life of Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Council of the Church of Christ in China (HKCCCC) is planning on planting 10 new churches over the next decade. Pray that this drive will be successful and that congregations will be encouraged to evangelise and care for the needy in their communities.

HKCCCC is training lay leaders and clergy in theology to help them work in the older and newer congregations and serve Christ to the full. Please pray that this training will be fruitful.

Pray also that HKCCCC's leaders will establish good relations with the Church in China through the sharing of resources and experience.



Kam-cheong Po

Guyana Congregational Union



Please pray:

- For the church to develop a clear vision for the way ahead and that it will keep focused on Jesus Christ;
- For the easing of economic tension affecting the country, and for genuine co-operation, unity and peace within Guyana;
- For the new lay pastors who graduated from the Guyana Congregational Union's (GCU) lay pastors' training programme, and that their knowledge, zeal and enthusiasm will have an impact on local congregations,;
- For the development of theological education that is relevant to Guyana;
- For music camps aimed at training musicians for ministry;
- That GCU will reach out to the poor and the marginalized, offering them hope and security;
- For the church's projects that train young people in handicraft and typing;
- That the church will preach the Gospel effectively and lead people to Christ;
- That congregations will be equipped through prayer and bible study to carry out mission.

Glen Johnson

Mission Event - Tuesday 13th June

We were so disappointed that Rev. Ray Whittle did not arrive as our speaker at the Mission Event. Although he had it in his diary, he was waiting for a letter from me confirming the arrangements. This letter failed to arrive although posted two weeks before. He was so sorry to have let us down. However, we were very grateful to Peter for stepping in, completely unprepared, and he told us about the work of the Paraclete Mission and its aim to build a school for black Africans to train there as Ministers for their own churches in Zimbabwe.

He compared the churches there with those he visited when he, Eileen and the family went to The Gambia some years ago.

We all found this talk very interesting and extended heartfelt thanks to Peter for filling the breach.

As a result of the ticket sales and Bring & Buy Stall we made a profit of £78.00 to which we added £72.00 from the Church Missionary Committee funds and have sent a total of £150.00 to the Paraclete Mission.

Thank you to all who supported this event.

Sheila Gooderham - Chairman

Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons

If a Jehovah's witness were to call at your door, would you know what to say to them in defence of our Christian faith? The following is an extract from an article published in *Inside Out* and is reproduced here with kind permission of the Council for World Mission.

The sense of Scripture

The Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons are among today's fastest growing sects. Both claim to have the true interpretation of the Bible. Yet Maurice Burrell shows that most of their beliefs are from other sources, not the Bible.

Of the many sects on the Christian perimeter, Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons are the two that mainstream Christians are most likely to encounter, probably on their own doorsteps. Founded in the 19th Century in the US, they exemplify the classic definition of religious sects as movements of religious protest. Rejecting the central doctrines of historic Christianity, they are prime examples of two very different approaches to religious authority.

The claimed Bible-only stance of Jehovah's Witnesses

Most first generation Witnesses become adherents through a carefully planned strategy. This begins with an initial contact, probably through a home visit, progresses through home study groups and involvement in door-to-door work, and culminates in their baptism as Witnesses. Like all Witnesses, they are taught that everything their movement believes and practises comes directly from the Bible, which, in its New World Jehovah's Witness translation, is accepted as the infallible Word of God.

But is the movement as Bible-only as it claims? Only the movement's top leadership, the directors of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, operating from their Brooklyn, US,

headquarters, can correctly interpret the Bible. All other Witnesses, who are discouraged from taking part in undirected bible reading, study the Bible through Watch Tower books. If questions about bible interpretation arise among members, they are advised to bring their views into line with Watch Tower truth. If members refuse to fall into line, they are warned, and if they persist they are thrown out.

So the movement has come to reject almost every key Christian doctrine. High on its hit-list are the doctrines of the Trinity - that God is three persons in one: Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and the Incarnation - that God became man in Jesus Christ.

To them, God is one Person, Jehovah, who alone is eternal, the Creator of all things, including his Son. Christ is, therefore, a demi-god, the first of

Jehovah's creatures, Son of God, but not God the Son. He may be called "a god" with a small 'g', but not God with a capital 'G'.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe in the Son's pre-existence but not his eternity. Before coming to earth he was the archangel Michael. Then he left this spirit state and became just a man, sacrificed everything that there was of his perfect humanity on a torture stake (not a cross), and then returned to his Father's side as a resurrected spirit being. The Son, therefore, is not God incarnate. Arius, whose similar teaching the Christian Church rejected as heretical in the fourth century AD, is the Jehovah's Witnesses' champion of biblical truth.

They also believe the Spirit to be Jehovah's impersonal active force in his world. So the Word is personal but not eternal. Paradoxically, the spirit is impersonal but eternal, for it is Jehovah in action. It follows that they believe the Trinity is not only incomprehensible, but illogical, unscriptural and pagan.

Jehovah's Witnesses also reject the Christian belief about salvation. Mainstream Christians affirm that human salvation is entirely the work of God, who in his grace sent his Son to live, die, and rise again for our salvation. We do not deserve salvation, cannot earn it, but by faith we accept it as God's gift. The Watch Tower, however, asserts that Christ's death is no guarantee of anyone's salvation. It simply gives everyone who believes a second chance to work for salvation. Jesus sacrificed his perfect human life as an exact equivalent for what Adam forfeited by disobedience. Believers are now like Adam before he sinned. They can achieve everlasting life by loyal obedience to Jehovah.

Witnesses say the Second Coming of Christ occurred invisibly, when in 1914 the spiritually resurrected and therefore invisible Christ returned to earth. They are now awaiting the end of the world and Armageddon when Jehovah, his heavenly hosts, and his true earthly servants (Jehovah's Witnesses) will defeat all those ranged against them, including the world's political and religious leaders.

For a thousand years after Armageddon, the Witnesses will repopulate the earth. Then Satan, imprisoned during that millennium, will be released to test those born in that period and to test the faithfulness to Jehovah of all Witnesses. Those who pass this final test will be rewarded with everlasting life: 144,000 in heaven and the rest on earth. Everyone else will be destroyed.



Dr Maurice Burrell was for 20 years director of education and then director of training for the Anglican diocese of Norwich, UK, until his recent retirement. He has written a book called "The 'Christian' fringe - a critical assessment of seven religious alternatives to mainstream Christianity, with a Christian response", published by Canterbury Press Norwich (1996).

Next month *The CHRONICLE* will print the second part of the above article - The Mormons.

Miscellaneous

Latest news from the Fellowship

Congratulations to Joan & Les Burrage who celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on the 20th July.



Peter & Eileen Heckels new address is,

2 Boundary Gardens
High Heaton
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE7 7AA

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'N,O, P & Q'

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Saved from the flood which destroyed the rest of mankind.
Gen 6-9 | 6 Son of Ruth and Boaz, Grandfather of David.
Ruth 4 |
| 2 Steward over Ahab's household who saved 100 prophets of God.
2 Kings | 7 Christian owner of the slave Onesimus to whom Paul wrote his letter. |
| 3 Governor of Syria when Jesus was born.
Luke 2 | 8 Title of the kings of Egypt. |
| 4 Returned to Jerusalem and organised the rebuilding of the walls. | 9 One of the twelve apostles |
| 5 Author of 13 New Testament letters. | 10 Roman procurator of Judea who allowed the Jews to crucify Jesus. |

Answers: -

1. Noah	2. Obadiah	3. Quirinius	4. Nehemiah	5. Paul	6. Obed
	7. Philemon	8. Pharaoh	9. Philip	10. Pilate	

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Serendipity

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmanuel (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Monthly. Monday Evening

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The August edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 30th July. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 16th July.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

August 2000

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

A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry



- *Induction of Rev Peter Hechels to High Henton URC.*
- *The 1990's at Goring URC.*
- *Dates for your diary*



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

Ministers: Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

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15 Harvey Road, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS
Telephone: 01903 506452

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Family Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month. - GAS (God's Appreciation Society) - Junior Church with Crèche |
| 6.00pm | Evening Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month. - Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month. |

Weekday Activities


Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 546

August 2000

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- World Church & Mission**
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- 16 The African Way
 - are we too solemn for the African people?



Dear Friends

August is a time when we often take a break from some of our church activities so that there is a chance for some rest and recuperation. I think many of us need that, especially this year, as all the Churches in the Team have been very busy lately. Sometimes it's good to be quiet and still and spend time thinking and praying about what has happened to us in the past. From that we can then go on to consider what God wants us to learn from the past as we look towards the future. Looking back over the good things God has done in our lives helps us to trust God more wholeheartedly as we bring the days ahead to him. Many of us, I think, find that from time to time we need to bring our worries and anxieties to God and let him take them from us, we need to make an effort mentally to let them go, so that we can then look forward to the exciting things God has in store for us all in the future.

Peter and Eileen have now left the Worthing Area Team and it was good to send them off in such grand style. The Saturday evening time with friends in the Goring Church was a fitting way for the Church which originally called Peter to say goodbye and the Sunday evening Team Service, to which friends from Churches Together in Goring came, as well as a good representation from the other Team Churches, was also an inspiring and joyful time, full of trust in God despite the fact that we were saying goodbye. After Peter had preached about God's 'precision timing' it was wonderful to discover that Ruth had indeed sold her camper van just before leaving Australia.

To take a little while for calm and peaceful reflection about our Church life and our individual lives will help us to see where God is guiding us and what resources he is giving us. Sometimes we wonder where those resources are coming from when they are there in our hands all the time if only we had the courage to try. It reminds me of the time a friend, Liz, had come to camp with us for the first time. It had been raining all day and we just couldn't find any dry kindling to light the fire. We tried wet wood shavings but they just steamed and smouldered and refused even to catch light. Liz then came upon the scene, asked what the matter was and said, with a slight air of desperation, "Here, let me try." To her utter amazement, and ours, the wood shavings she had picked up out of the wet pile not only caught light but allowed themselves to be coaxed into becoming the start of a very respectable camp fire. None of us had realized that she really did have a talent for persuading small flames to light and it became a standing joke that Liz could get anything to burn, however wet it might be.

In all the Churches of the Team there are jobs that are waiting for someone to undertake them. Don't think "I couldn't possibly do that" but remember Liz and her undiscovered fire-raising talents. If all of us can make some contribution, however small (and excluding arson!) to the Churches of the Team then together we will all go from strength to strength in the power of the Lord.

With love and blessings to you all, *Margaret*

New address

Miss Jean Hillis:
6, Lyndhurst Court, Bangor
County Down, Northern Ireland
BT19 1AP

*She says it was lovely to be back
in Church again.*

Congratulations to:-

Geoffrey Redman in gaining his
BA Hons Degree in Music.

Suzy Webber for passing with
distinction the GNVQ
examination in Health & Social
Care.

Junior Church

At the end of July, Wilma Smith stood down as Leader, Secretary and Teacher of Junior Church. We thank her for the wonderful work that she has done with the children, her commitment Sunday by Sunday, the organisation of outings for the children and for the many hours spent with the other teachers preparing for the Sunday sessions. I am sure that the whole church will agree with me Wilma, in thanking you for your years of service with the young people and to wish you God's blessings on whatever He may now call you to do. Thank you Wilma.

Please continue to pray for our children and young people as we look forward to help and leadership in our Junior Church.

Graham Redman

The Church Treasurer

Roy Gooderham is retiring as Church Treasurer at the end of August, having been in office since 1989 succeeding Douglas Blakey. We thank Roy for the responsibilities he has had during the last ten years or so as Treasurer in managing the Church's finances and for his valuable contributions to the Finance Committee and Church Meetings.

Again I am sure that the whole Church will wish me to say, "Thank you Roy."

The Church now looks forward to a new Treasurer being nominated and accepted by Church Meeting very shortly.

Graham Redman

Quinquennial Survey

The Synod Clerk has instructed Mr Peter Pritchett of John D. Clark and Partners, Chartered Architects, Eastbourne to carry out the Quinquennial Survey of the church buildings.

The survey will be carried out on Friday 22 September. Mr RJ Surridge, builder, will be present in order to provide long ladders and assistance to the surveyor.

Mr Pritchett has been advised that some of the halls will be occupied, i.e. Little Fishes Playgroup and Kestro Club. Plans of the church will be available for the surveyor.

Colin Nodes, House and Fabric Committee



Induction of Rev Peter Heckels at High Heaton

Travelling by car and train sixteen members from Goring URC made their way to Newcastle to attend Peter's Induction Service on 15th July at St George's Church, High Heaton.

We were given a warm and friendly welcome at High Heaton and it was good to meet members and friends from St George's and other neighbouring churches - one lady who hailed from Littlehampton was particularly pleased to make our acquaintance!

As the Service progressed, with fitting choral pieces, rousing hymns, and kind appreciative and encouraging words spoken by members of the Northern Synod, the Church and the Newcastle District Council, one could not help but feel that, under God's guidance, Peter, Eileen and Bill had indeed "come home".

In his address the Moderator Emeritus of the General Assembly, the Rev. Peter McIntosh, spoke of the hallmarks of the Christian Church - humility, gentleness, patience, tolerance and the importance of preserving unity. It was a powerful message which will long remain with us.

As the words and music of the Service echoed in our memories we could easily imagine that Peter might repeat the recent words spoken by Betty Boothroyd in the House of Commons as she too moved on to a new station in life - "be happy for me" - and we are. We felt that this change of scene and service is God's perfect will for Peter and we pray God's richest blessing on Peter's future life and Ministry.



After the Service we enjoyed a delightful (and copious) tea and time of fellowship together in the Church Hall. The Goring contingent was invited to take a tour of the Manse which was located next door to the Church, and to have a final cuppa with Peter and family before setting off on our various ways - some to stay with High Heaton members or at nearby hostelries until after the next morning's service while others took the opportunity to visit friends and relatives in the North.

Margaret & David Butcher

Worthing to Newcastle ... via Kings Cross

Some travelled by car visiting friends and relations on route and some by train.

Six of us caught the 07.39 from Worthing and after a very easy journey arrived in Newcastle to take a taxi to St Georges, simple you would think! But the Taxi



drivers had not heard of it, they normally took people to hotels, easy driving! What was Peter coming to we wondered! However all was well and we arrived to a lovely greeting by the ladies of the Church, where we were given a guided tour and met with our fellow Worthing travellers.

After the service and refreshments at the Church the Goring contingent decamped to the Manse where we had another guided tour and a time of fellowship and a shared Chinese meal. We six then left to go to our hosts for the night, all of whom made us so very welcome and comfortable.

Next morning we were back at the Church for morning service which was conducted by

Peter, he spoke to the children asking what certain numbers and letters had in common, they in fact referred to himself and how much better to have a name to remember. It was also the theme of his talk that God knows us all by name. We also sang a hymn that St Georges did not know!!

After refreshments we said farewell to old and new friends and caught the 13.25 train from Newcastle to Worthing... via Kings Cross.

We could probably go on for ages about our weekend, suffice to say that we had a truly wonderful time. I for one look forward to one day soon having a holiday with 'Our friends in the North'

May God bless Peter, Eileen their family and the people of St Georges as they begin the Lord's work together.

*Lily, Pheniah, Doreen, Sheila,
Caroline & Denise*

The following was seen in High Heaton's magazine 'Contact' -

Smiling is infectious you catch it like the 'flu, when someone smiled at me today I started smiling too.

I passed the corner, and someone saw my smiling grin, when he smiled I realised, I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about the smile, and then I realised its worth, a single smile like mine could travel around the earth.

If you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected. Let's start an epidemic-quick! and get the world infected.

Poet unknown.

Thank you to members and friends at High Heaton

Thank you to the Fellowship of St. Georges for their wonderful and sincere Welcome. To the Church Secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Barker for her contacts with Moira, Julia and Catherine - our three hosts. Without their generosity in having us for the night, 'things may not have been what one is used to' Special thanks to our own Doreen for her part in the travel arrangements and for her liaison with Mrs. Barker with such efficiency - Train times and connections were near perfect - almost on the dot!

Thank you to my travelling companions - Sheila, Lily, Doreen, Denise and Caroline - for their Fellowship and love that radiated amongst us. A day to remember with God's blessing to all who took part to make this day a memorable day in our Calendar with Peter and Eileen as they begin their new Ministry at St. Georges Church, High Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Phemah Taylor

A Bible Quiz

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'R & S'

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Mother of Joseph and Benjamin.
Gen 29-35</p> <p>2 Wife of Boaz and great-grandmother of King David.</p> <p>3 Champion of Israel against the Philistines in the time of the Judges.
Judges 13</p> <p>4 Judge and prophet who anointed Israel's first two kings.</p> <p>5 First king of Israel.</p> | <p>6 Wife of Isaac. Jacob was her favourite son.
Gen 24-28</p> <p>7 One of the seven men chosen of spiritual calibre to take care of practical matters. First Christian martyr.
Acts 6-7</p> <p>8 Probably the pharaoh of the exodus.</p> <p>9 David's son; king of Israel.</p> <p>10 Son of Adam & Eve.</p> |
|--|--|

Answers: -

- | | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| 1. Rachel | 2. Ruth | 3. Samson | 4. Samuel | 5. Saul |
| 6. Rebekah | 7. Stephen | 8. Rameses | 9. Solomon | 10. Seth |

URC Southern Province
Youth and Children's Work Forum
present a seminar on

Pastoral Care of Young People and Children

**led by The Oasis Trust
10.30am - 12.30pm on Saturday 28th October
at East Croydon URC**

This session seeks to provide an opportunity for people to consider
how their church cares for young people and children.

Please promote this to any who might be interested, using church
magazines, notice sheets and any other effective means.

Ask people to keep this date free, further details, including a booking
form for each church, will be circulated in September.

**Please offer everyone the opportunity
to attend this important seminar.**

for your Diary in 2000...



Thu 3 2.30pm Prayer & Praise
7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Fri 4 60th Anniversary of the first service held at Elm Grove School on 4th August 1940

7.30am Day of Prayer
10.30am Holy Communion
7.30pm Evening Praise

60th Anniversary Sunday



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 17 2.30pm Prayer & Praise



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 20th is the last day for
September Chronicle material**



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship

Mon 28 Bank Holiday

Thanksgiving & Diamond Jubilee

Plans for our Thanksgiving weekend on 23rd and 24th September are going ahead. The weekend is to include our gift day when we all have an opportunity not only to bring our money but our time and talent.

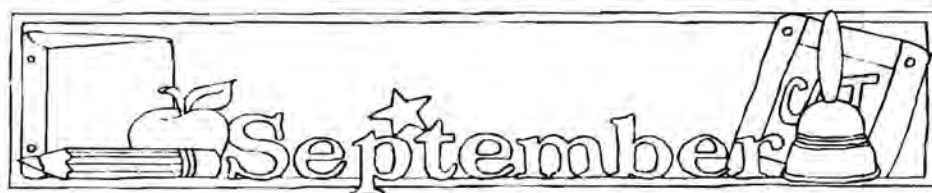
Can you spare time to help while the church is being decorated on Friday 22nd September, or steward, or serve coffee on Saturday?

Would you like to sponsor someone who is arranging flowers?

Tickets will be available later for the Harvest Supper at 7.00 pm on Saturday 23rd, when we will be joined by members of Shelley Road URC.

If you are able to help in any way please contact either *Carol Webber* or *Robin Bradley*

Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2000...



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thur 7 2.30pm Prayer & Praise

Sat 9 Worthing Area Team Barbeque on the green, Goring.
- if wet, at St Columba's URC



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 14 7.30pm Elders' Meeting



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 17th is the last day for
October Chronicle material**

Harvest Festival & Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Weekend

Sat 23 Open Church with various displays and
7.00pm - Harvest Supper.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship



Thur 28 Church Meeting



Looking ahead

Sun 1st October

Rededication Sunday

Mon 9th October

'Women in Action': East Croydon URC.

Sat 11th November

Walk Through the New Testament
at Central URC, Hove.



Goring United Reformed Church

The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

1990--1999

1990's By 1990 Wilfred Rhodes had been Church Secretary for a couple of years taking over from Ray Newell and Roy Gooderham Church Treasurer following on from Douglas Blakey. The Rev William Connelly retired from full time ministry in November 1991. He had been minister of Goring since 1974 making him the longest serving minister at this church. In August of 1990 the church celebrated it's Golden Jubilee including a Gift Day, Rev Cyril Franks leading Sunday morning service, releasing balloons, Jubilee Quiz, Celebration mugs and *The First Fifty Years* video made.

The Interregnum 1991-1993 Upon William's retirement Rev John & Mrs Elsie Flack were appointed as interim moderators. We will remember John for his leadership skills in public worship and for his inspired sermons and children's talks. We also remember Elsie for her leadership and gifts in music and singing, playing the piano and organ. Mrs Irene Dearsley was appointed as Leader of Junior Church.

Rev Peter & Eileen Heckels Peter and Eileen Heckels moved to Worthing from Sawston, Cambridgeshire and for Peter to be inducted as minister of Goring in 1993. Peter and Eileen brought their family with them, Ruth, Philip and Peter's father, Bill. This necessitated a larger Manse than the then existing building at 140 George V Avenue and so plans were made to purchase a new Manse, 17 Drummond Road. Geoffrey Dearsley became Church Secretary.

'GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH' letters were fixed to the top of the east wall facing Shaftesbury Avenue for all to see. The 1990's sadly saw the closure of the Boys' and Girls' Brigades after many years of active service. We thank God

for those who so generously gave their time in the leading of children and young people to Christ.

A new Notice Board was erected in the church gardens.

Little Fishes Play Group Little Fishes Play Group was opened in September 1995.

1996 Mrs Hilary Redman became Church Secretary, and Mrs Wilma Smith leader and secretary of Junior Church.

Decoration of the Sanctuary

In April 1999, volunteers from the church membership and congregation enabled the interior of the church to be decorated.

A well earned 'tea break' for the decorators. ➔



The Worthing Area Team Ministry

As early as 1991/2 meetings of representatives from all the churches in the area, including Sompting and Durrington LEP, were taking place to pray and discuss the future of ministry in the area. At the time, we at Goring had enjoyed the long term settled ministry of Rev William Connelly, but his retirement was approaching, and Shelley Road had experienced an unsettled period with diminishing hope of an established minister of their own. Various options of sharing ministers as pairs of churches or other combinations were fully explored, and even the possibility of closing a church, all in the light of the needs of the whole District.

In 1993 Rev Peter Heckels was called to Goring, but with a flexibility clause understood. The group continued to meet with contributions from changing chairmen, interim moderators and rotating church representatives and eventually became the Worthing Area Steering Group.

The Patterns of Ministry document was produced by General Assembly during this time with encouragement of more lay responsibility in the light of falling numbers of ordained ministers in the URC. This influenced our thinking and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the embryonic nucleus of what we now recognise as the Worthing Area Team Ministry was tentatively suggested with lay representatives to share with ordained ministry to provide continuity

in what could be foreseen as a coming period of changing ministry.

In the meantime in 1996, Sompting withdrew and became settled with Jenny and Charles Martin linking with Hounscome. Hove. Durrington LEP was settled with alternate Methodist/URC ministers. Goring had to learn to accept that we could no longer retain the prerogative of a single pastorate ministry.

And so after many years of prayerful discussions, a declaration of commitment was agreed by all 4 church meetings in 1997 and the 4 churches covenanted to share ministry, culminating in the inaugural service in May 1998. Since then both Roy Parkington and Bob Murray have retired, and Norman Croft (non-stipendiary part time) has been allocated by District to Shelley Road from 1997 until 2003. Rev Margaret Ashby coming in 1999 is the first minister called into the established Team which was to have been scoped for 3 ministers to 4 churches.

In working at ways of sharing the ministry in the last 2 years, we have also had to develop a process by which all 4 churches share in the calling of a new minister to the Team. Much of what we have done has been learning as there are no precedents to follow, and each area and situation is different. But we pray that God will continue to guide us and lead us into the paths of ministry which will best serve His Kingdom.

Jane Bond

The Mitchell Family recall some memories of the 1990's -

Pete

My most vivid memory of the 90's is becoming a church member. Other important times for me were the BEANO (Boys Evening And Night Out) fun evenings, such as bowling, skittles, pitch & putt, quizzes, games evenings in the hall and more especially the family camps, where many members their family and friends would camp, caravan or visit for the day at various sites. These were wonderful times of fellowship which drew us all closer together. The Sunday open-air services that we held at these camps were a sheer delight.

Sue

The most important time of the 90's for me was March '95, when Peter Heckels told Val Gill and me that the old Nursery School in the East Hall was closing and that he would like a Christian based group run by our church. After a lot of hard work, physical and mental also paper-work, *Goring Little Fishes* opened in September '95. Denise Elliott and myself were employed and we both stepped out in faith and gave up our other employment. Val helped as a volunteer when needed. We started with sixteen children and our numbers increased until being fully booked by the end of the decade. There are so

many times I could write about.

Working with Junior Church children and the team of leaders since the early '90s has been a very rewarding and challenging experience.

Daniel

The most exciting time for me in the '90s was when I was at the Youth Club on Saturday evenings, because there were lots of activities as well as trips out. During the 90's I couldn't wait to get to church for the Youth services held in the East Hall. They were energetic and fun and a great learning experience. I was devastated when all this ceased.

I have enjoyed doing the Bible Exploration Studies each year - it has been hard work but rewarding. In 1999 I was presented with a certificate for completing ten years of Bible Exploration, all the work books I could do. I have enjoyed Peter's sense of humour and how he used this in his sermons. I learnt a lot during our youth discussion groups held at the Manse.

Ricky

Of the 90's I remember all the families the quiz nights, the camps, Junior Church and Bible exams, Junior Church games and quizzes also Giles and Julie doing the JIM (Jesus In Me) holiday Club. I also found the Christmas plays and Pantomime enjoyable.

Janet Dean writes — On the 10th May 1996 after 9 weeks with my sister and recovering from an eye operation we moved to Goring from Horley. I found this church accidentally, (or did I ?) and not knowing anything about the URC I said to my father "well they have a minister and a Girls' Brigade, I'll give it a try". I am glad that I did.

The first Sunday that I attended, coffee was being served in the hall as it was Junior Church Anniversary. I met Doreen and Ivy who made me very welcome, who gave me a copy of the Chronicle, so straight away I knew of other activities the church offered. I was thrilled to bits to see that the church had a choir as I loved music and singing, and so it wasn't long before I made enquiries about joining the Choir. Even though others are more gifted than me I was flattered that I was given the job as librarian with them.

I thank Ivy and Doreen who were the first ladies to welcome me, others of course followed thus making me decide that this would be my new spiritual home. I transferred my membership from Horley in December of the same year, it is a decision that I have never regretted, having found such warm love and acceptance - thank you all very much.

Rev Ron Christopher: On Saturday 11th December 1999 our much loved friend Ron died peacefully at his home in Lomas House, he was 89. Not many months before this date he was preaching a series of sermons at our evening services on the book of Daniel and introducing us all in his cheerful way to a song he had learnt many years ago "O to be a Daniel".



The CHRONICLE Editors

Leslie Montford had edited and produced over 100 magazines in the years that he was editor. Most magazines at that time were produced in the larger A4 format making production and photocopying from originals more straight forward and less time consuming. Leslie retired from that position in May 1998 handing over his responsibilities to Graham Redman.

The story of Goring United Reformed Church concludes in next month's September Chronicle with news of events happened so far in this new millennium, 2000 and to have a brief look ahead.

Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons

Following on from the July Chronicle's article on Jehovah's Witness, *The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, (The Mormons)* is investigated in this month's magazine.

Again it is an extract from an article published in *Inside Out* and is reproduced here with kind permission of the Council for World Mission.

The sense of Scripture

The Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons are among today's fastest growing sects. Both claim to have the true interpretation of the Bible. Yet Maurice Burrell shows that most of their beliefs are from other sources, not the Bible.

The acknowledged Bible-plus stance of the Mormons

The Mormons do not claim to base their beliefs only on the Bible. Though they regard the Bible as God's Word, three books given to them by their founder, Joseph Smith Jr, are also regarded as God's Word.

Mormons say the most important of Joseph Smith's revelations was in 1823 when an angelic being named Moroni told him about gold plates buried in the Hill

Cumorah in New York State, US. These plates, covered in hieroglyphics, contained the history of the American Indians and the fullness of the Gospel that was revealed to them by Christ after his resurrection in Palestine. Mr Smith unearthed

the plates, translated them with the help of two transparent stones set in silver bows, and in 1830 published the translation as the Book of Mormon. That year he also founded the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Mr Smith convinced many people that his claims were true, and his church grew, despite much



© Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

A WORLD APART: Mormons use traditional language and images for beliefs that are totally different from Christian ones.

opposition. He also produced other revelations, published as Doctrine and Covenants, and a further book, the Pearl of Great Price, which alongside the Bible and the Book of Mormon became his church's governing scriptures. One revelation, section 132 of Doctrine and Covenants, claiming divine authority to practise polygamy, led to Mr Smith's murder in 1844.

Mormons believe that Joseph Smith was the divinely chosen prophet who in 1830 restored true Christianity to a world in which the recognised Christian churches had become apostate. For them Mr Smith remains God's spokesman and his three books are additional scripture, complementing the partial and inadequate revelation contained in the Bible.

Although Mormons use traditional Christian language, their beliefs differ profoundly from those of Christians. For them, God is tangible and has a male physical body. A favourite Mormon maxim ~ "As man is, God once was. As God is, man may become" - highlights their belief that God evolved from humanity to deity.

They also believe in a three-tiered salvation: the celestial kingdom where God lives for the best Mormons, the celestial kingdom visited by angels for wicked non-Mormons, and between them the terrestrial kingdom for righteous non-Mormons. This view is justified from 1 Corinthians 15, but one could as easily justify bird glory, animal glory and other kinds from a literal understanding of that passage.

The actual Bible-plus stance of both movements

Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses claim to be very different from each other in the views they have on the divine source of their beliefs and

practices. Mormons look to extra-biblical material. Witnesses claim to be completely Bible-based. But are they really so different?

For the Mormons, Joseph Smith is clearly their plus element. They openly claim that his writings are as inspired, even more inspired, than the Old and New Testament writers, providing truth additional to that in the Bible.

The Witnesses are not so open. Yet it is clear that their plus element is the leadership of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society. These men provide the rest of the movement with the only interpretations of the Bible that can be accepted by rank-and-file Witnesses.

Jehovah's Witnesses, therefore, are as much a Bible-plus group as are the Mormons. And for both, relying on extra-biblical material rather than just on the Bible has led them to beliefs that are far removed from mainstream Christianity.



Dr Maurice Burrell was for 20 years director of education and then director of training for the Anglican diocese of Norwich, UK, until his recent retirement. He has

written a book called "The 'Christian' fringe - a critical assessment of seven religious alternatives to mainstream Christianity, with a Christian response", published by Canterbury Press Norwich (1996).

The African Way The mainline churches are usually too solemn for African people, although some are rediscovering their African roots, explains Wilbert Sayimani.

Worship was not brought to Africa by the missionaries. Black people knew God and worshipped him before missionaries ever turned up. They worshipped God through their ancestors who were known as mediators and messengers of God.

Africans joining in traditional ceremonies worship to the full. When a ritual to induce a spirit is performed, there is normally a lot of singing, dancing and clapping. As the worship intensifies, it affects people's emotions and they enter the spirit world. The spirits manifest themselves through the spirit mediums to communicate with the people. This is contrary to the Western worship introduced by the missionaries. For them, worship had to follow a particular written liturgy in a disciplined manner. The singing was orderly and only certain instruments could be used, such as organs, pianos and guitars. Everything had to be done within reason.

When the African people accepted Christianity, they struggled with the Western culture that came with it, hence the emergence of African Independent Churches (AIC). AICs manage to join Christian and the African emotional ways of worship. They express their faith in completely African ways.

Black people in churches such as the Zionist and Pentecostal churches give themselves totally to worship, with singing, dancing and clapping. For them, they are not being disorderly but just emotionally involved

and carried away in eternal bliss. It is not shameful in an AIC service to sing louder than others, never mind dancing and clapping, unlike the mainline churches where people are restrained and suppress their emotions.

The baptism ceremony highlights this. In most mainline churches baptism is sober and peaceful, with water usually sprinkled over the candidate's head. AICs, however, prefer a more dramatic form of baptism through immersion that clearly shows the influence of traditional African worship.

As people gather around the baptism, a lot of singing, dancing and clapping takes place. As the worship intensifies, different forms of exorcism occur. The baptising prophet struggles and fights with the demon-possessed person in the water. When the demon is too violent, another prophet helps the first one overpower it and they then baptise the person with a powerful laying on of hands in prayer.

AICs are playing a significant role towards contextualising theology in Africa. At first their worship was severely criticised by the mainline churches. But as black membership of AICs increased, they became unavoidable. Today their worship seems to be sweeping over southern Africa and affecting all mainline black churches. One writer said that this is the gift of every black person as he worships God in freedom and in Spirit.

Wilbert Sayimani is general secretary of the Zimbabwe presbytery of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa.

- Reproduced from Inside Out by kind permission of CWM. -

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth	Friday Evenings
Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Serendipity	Monthly. Monday Evening
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Parents & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Every Weekday
Emmanuel (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The September edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 3rd September. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 20th August.

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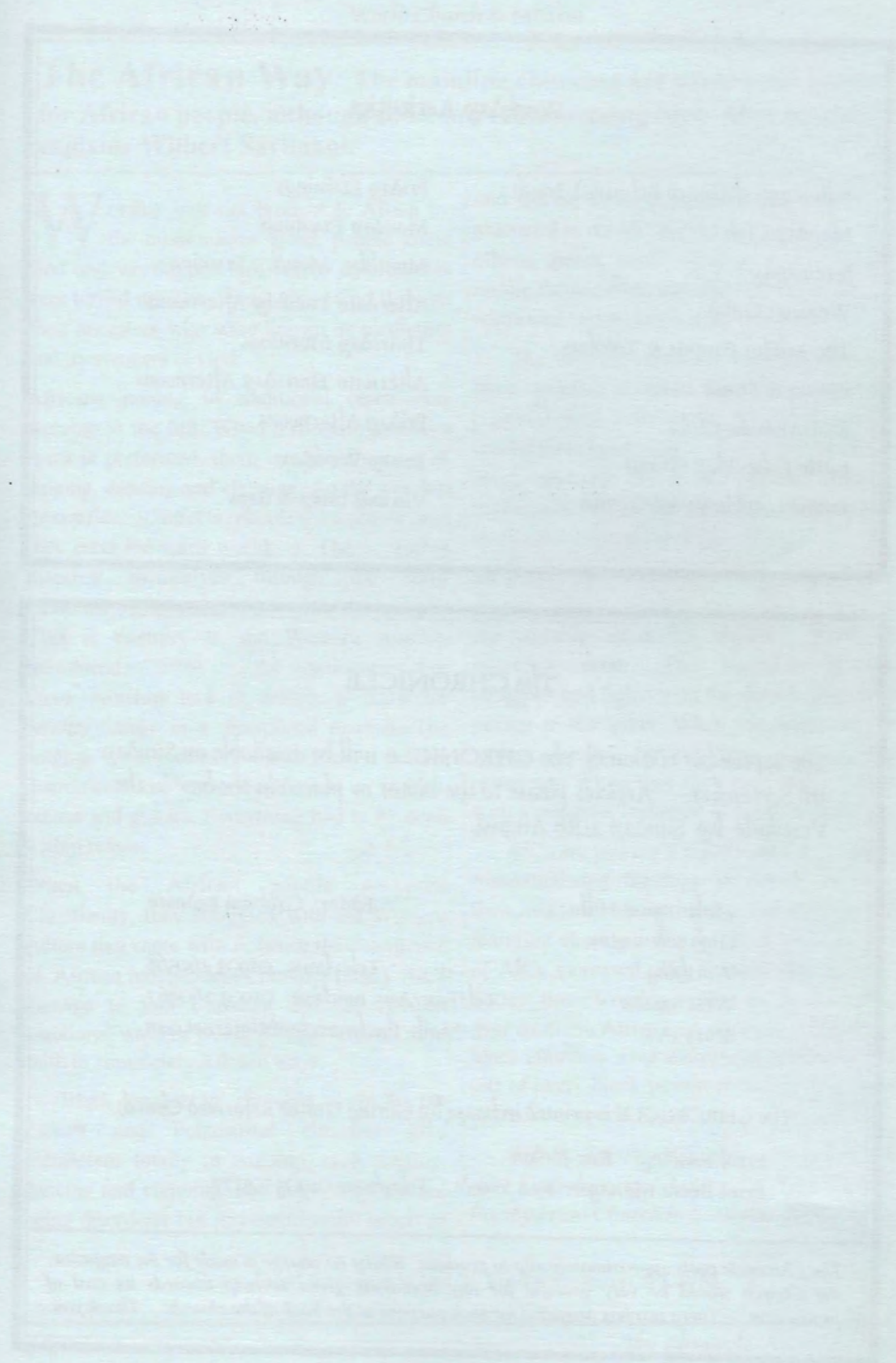
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The CHRONICLE

September 2000

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

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —



- *Harvest Festival & Diamond Jubilee Weekend.
23rd/24th September.*
- *Newsletter from Ruth Chatfield.*
- *Team Barbecue. 9th September. Page 9*



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Worship
- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- GAS (God's Appreciation Society)
- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship
- with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month.
- Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month.

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 547

September 2000

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Dear Friends,

It is fairly easy for us who live so close to the countryside to appreciate the seasons and how they affect the pattern of country life. As we travel around we can see seeds being sown in spring, crops being tended as they grow and mature during the summer, and the results being harvested in the autumn.

If you live in a large conurbation, say London, appreciation of the seasons becomes far more difficult. In times gone by in our towns and cities the changing seasons were identified by what produce was available in the shops. This is no longer the case. Fresh fruit and vegetables are available all the year round it is just the price that varies. Children grow up thinking that you can go into an orchard at any time of the year and pick a plum off a tree, which of course you can, but not in the same orchard! It might not seem like it when we look around our shops but there still are four seasons to the year!

Despite the recent advances in global technology seed time and harvest is just as important now as it has been in the past. Human life only survives because of the continual cycles of renewal of God's creation. We need to give thanks to God. We need to remember those who supply our daily needs and whose livelihood depends on agriculture. The food we eat, despite advances in science, still needs sowing, nurturing and harvesting. It needs not only the human hand but the hand of God to succeed. After all it is the hand of God that turns a pip into an apple tree, a handful of seeds into a field of wheat.

As the people of God we always need to give thanks to God, but this is especially the case at harvest time. So as part of the family of God let us give special thanks to God this harvest. Let us celebrate God's goodness to each of us. Let us praise him for his creation which has never let us down in the past and, if we treat it right, will not let us down in the future. So let us approach harvest this year celebrating, thanking, and rejoicing. Celebrating the gift of God's creation. Thanking him for all his gifts to us. Rejoicing that another harvest is safely gathered in.

Norman

Harvest Festival & Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Weekend

Arrangements for the Harvest/Thanksgiving weekend are progressing well. If you are able to help with stewarding or with serving refreshments and have not yet been asked, please speak to Eileen Rhodes or Denise Woods.

Anyone wishing to make a donation towards the cost of flowers please contact Pheniah Taylor. Tickets for the Harvest Supper to be held at 7.00pm on Saturday 23rd September will be available nearer the date. Please continue to pray that this weekend may be a time of true thanksgiving for all of us here in Goring.

*** SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS ***

Robin Bradley

New address

Audrey & Michael Ebeling
have moved to
14 Bishopstone Drive, Saltdean
East Sussex. BN2 8FF
01273 302776

Ella Robertson, as many will
know, has temporarily moved to
Hollywynd Rest Home.
Whilst she is there her phone
number is W 215061

Thank you

Thank you all who sent greetings to us on our
Diamond Wedding Day.

Having received numerous cards it has been
very difficult for us to remember who we have
thanked personally.

We feel the Lord has blest us greatly and we
had such joy with our family, relatives and
friends on the 15th July. Blessings to you all.

Les and Joan Burrage

Help in the Church Kitchen

As no one has offered to take responsibility for the kitchen I have agreed to carry on
for the time being.

I hope to gather together a team of people prepared to help with teas etc. as and
when the need arises. The more volunteers the less often you would be called upon
for duty.

If you are willing to help please add your name to the list in the Vestibule.

Audrey Gerlach

Church Flowers

We are still short of volunteers to help with the Church flowers. We all enjoy having
the building decorated week by week and to arrange the flowers can be a real act of
worship and thanksgiving.

If you feel led to make a donation towards the flowers one week or would like to try
your hand at arranging them please add your name to the list in the Vestibule.

Audrey Gerlach

Felpham Holiday Special 2000

Thursday 3rd August. I arrived in Felpham for my 4th year as a team member on this mission which was organised by the Scripture Union. After an evening meal we went to our host homes.

Friday 4th was spent in training on working with children, first aid, health and safety. That evening the team had an evening of fun activities to get to know one another.

Saturday 5th was spent in programme planning and practical preparation for the coming week. I was to working with the 5-10 year olds and to be dressed as a cow in the drama all week !. During that evening, there was a commissioning service which I missed as I came back to Worthing for a family meal.

Sunday 6th We went to the local church service in the morning, and in the afternoon we held some fun events on the promenade to encourage people to join us in the coming week.

Monday 7th - Friday 11th There were morning, afternoon and evening activities.

The morning theme was based on cowboys.

The drama, teaching and craft taught us about; i) the character and names of God; ii) what God says about us and what He calls us to do; iii) our response to what God says and does.



The afternoon events were a Tide fight (each age group builds a sandcastle and the last one to be knocked down by the tide, wins), crafts, games on the field, fancy dress party and a treasure trail around the village. The evening included putting, Christian band concert, talent contest and a barn dance.

Saturday 12th We spent the morning tidying up. During the afternoon we held a BBQ followed by a quiz evening.

Sunday 13th We led the local church's morning service explaining what we had been up to during the week. After the service and a cup of coffee with a piece of cake, the team went to a local family home for buffet lunch before saying our goodbyes. As in previous years the days were long, starting at 8.15am for team worship and Bible reading; ending the days at approximately 9.00pm. This meant of course that we were all very tired by the end of the week, but had been able to continue in God's strength.

Whether I shall be able to go again next year remains to be seen, but I had a wonderful time this year.

Dentise Elliott

Millennium & Jubilee Concert Saturday, 21st October. 7.30pm

As part of our Millennium and Jubilee celebrations our Church will be hosting a concert to be given by the Worthing Philharmonic Choir.

The concert will include the well known and beautiful Requiem by Faure, and other choral and organ items.

Please make a note of the date and invite as many friends as possible.

Further details and programmes at £5 each will be available nearer the time.

Watch this space in the October Chronicle!

Eileen Rhodes

Social Activities

2001

- Watch this space -

We shall soon have to think about our social activities for next year - soon comes around doesn't it?

So, in the meantime, if you think of anything that might be interesting, different, or just plain fun do let me know. I'll arrange a meeting sometime early in January and we can talk over our ideas.

Doreen Norris

Bible Quiz

**Can you name these people all
beginning with T-Z?**

This will appear in October's Chronicle.

The Rowland Singers Summer Showtime Monday, 11th September. 7.30pm

The Rowland Singers are giving one of their Summer Showtime Concerts in the Church on Monday 11th September at 7.30pm. They shall be singing excerpts from *Calamity Jane* plus two early *John Rutter* quiet melodies and also his arrangement of *Down by the Riverside* and *When the Saints go Marching in*. The rest of the programme will mostly be arrangements of sentimental melodies from a book called *In the Mood*. We also have a lovely arrangement of a children's song.

Come and enjoy this lighter side of our repertoire

Programmes available at £3.00 from—

Roy or Sheila Gooderham.

Tearfund

The Tearcraft Bazaar will be held from 10am to 12noon on Saturday, October 28th in the Church Hall. Wonderful fair trade goods will be available for you to buy or order.

These items are mainly produced by Christians in poorer countries which Tearcraft have helped set up in business. Your continuing support helps them. There are cards, jewellery, scarves, brass, wooden and pottery ornaments and lots of other things ideal for Christmas gifts. I will be placing a special order if you wish to peruse the catalogue available from the vestibule, or on the morning, or from - *Gaynor Anderson-Easey*

The Ark

If you have friends or neighbours with children under five, please tell them about The Ark.

This is a friendly Carer & Baby/Toddler group where all are welcome. It is held on Thursday mornings (term time) from 9.30am to 11:30am in the Church Hall. Children can play and carers can have coffee/tea and a chat.

Traidcraft

Fair trade items (this means goods are produced where the workers get decent pay and conditions) are on sale at each Church Meeting and other occasions.

Please support us. Some items are on sale.

Most items are the equivalent of supermarket prices.

We can use this to raise Church Funds as well as helping those in poorer countries.

Items can be ordered in.

Gaynor Anderson-Easey (Tel: 539868)

Alpha

I am proposing to have another Alpha course in the Autumn and have already had requests for both a daytime and an evening one.

If anybody else is interested please let me know and day and time can be arranged. The course consists of a series of 'non-threatening' videos with a lot of humour in them, followed by a short discussion. The course is of interest to both Christians and non-Christians giving an understanding of our Christian faith on all levels.

The introductory video is called 'Christianity - Boring, Untrue and Irrelevant'. After seeing this video people can decide whether they wish to carry on with the course. If you have already been on one of the Alpha courses offer an invitation to a friend, or better still, bring them with you to the first video.

Please let me know if you would like to be included and also if you have any queries.

Sheila Gooderham

... from the July Church Meeting

At the church meeting held on the 27th July we were glad to elect the following members to serve in many ways. All appointments began on September 1st 2000

Administrative Elder Mr Matthew Smith

Pastoral Elder Mr Geoffrey Dean

Other appointments were confirmed as follows:-

Church Family Committee:

Mrs Rosemary Terry

Mrs Carol Webber

Outreach & Evangelism Committee:

Mrs Margaret Butcher

Mr Paul Redman

Finance Committee:

Mr Ken Irving

House & Fabric Committee:

Mr Eric Bond

Mr Pete Mitchell

Mrs Eileen Rhodes

World Church & Mission:

Mrs Joan Fordham

Mrs Barbara Popplestone

Mrs Audrey Stewart-

Church Members to :

The Ark

- Church representative: Gaynor Anderson-Easey

Monday Club

- Bobby Hitchin & Bill Marshall

Little Fishes

- Church representative: Carol Webber

Welcome

- for the time being Graham Redman will edit Welcome

Choir Master

- Geoffrey Redman

Authorised Person

- (at weddings) - Bobby Hitchin & Doreen Norris

Traidcraft

- Gaynor Anderson-Easey

Christian Aid

- Geoffrey Redman

Thanks were expressed to a number of people who were standing down from office having given loyal service.

Roy Gooderham standing down after many years as Church Treasurer.

Wilma Smith as she stands down from teaching and leading in Junior Church.

Audrey & Michael Ebeling as they move to Saltdean, having served in Finance, Junior Church, the Choir, and in publishing Welcome.

Denise Elliott as she stands down from eldership to go to college in September.

Sheila Gooderham who has served a full term on the eldership.

Stewart Higgins who has served on the Finance committee.

Jim Hope who has served as Transport Officer.

Harvest Festival and Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Weekend at Goring URC

Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th September

**INCLUDING FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS
AND GIFT DAY**

Programme

Saturday

10.00am—5.00pm

Festival of Flowers with music

Refreshments throughout the day. 50p tea/coffee etc.

7.00pm

Harvest Supper. Entertainment afterwards.

Adults £2.50, Children under 14 £1.50 & under 5 free.

Sunday

8.00am Morning Communion led by Rev Margaret Ashby.

10.00am Church open for Festival of flowers followed by -

10.30am Family Service led by Mr Geoffrey Dearsley.

6.00pm Hymns of Praise with other Team Churches & CTG.

7.00pm Close.

Worthing Area Team Barbecue

Saturday 9th September 4.30pm

Sea Front Green, Goring

(opposite Aldsworth Avenue)

If wet in St Columba's Church Hall

Tickets available from:

Christine Smith	Shelley Road
Ann & Jack Croy	St Andrew's
Mike McCue	St Columba's
Doreen Norris	Goring

£1.50 each or £4.00 per family

Church Appointments
continued from page 7.

N.B. At the time of going to print, four committee places remain unfilled; one on Church Family, one on Outreach & Evangelism, two on Finance. These and any committee may co-opt members from time to time. There still remain a number of other positions unfilled and nominations for these are still acceptable.

There is still room for those who would like to help in Junior Church, and there are no leaders/helpers for our 7-11's mid -week group, waiting to begin. Would you like to help with catering? or sing in the choir especially if you can sing a part. Please talk to any Elder or the Church Secretary if you think you could offer your help.

Hilary Redman



Sun 3	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.45am	Family Service
	6.00pm	Evening Worship
Mon	7.30pm	Special Church Meeting
Tue 5	2.30pm	Women's Guild: The Old Rectory Crowhurst. Mrs Jean Webb.
Thur 7	7.30am	Day of Prayer
	2.30pm	Prayer & Praise
Sat 9	4.30pm	Worthing Area Team Barbeque on the green, Goring. - if wet, at St Columba's URC. See page 9 for details

Sun 10	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Service with Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Worship

Thu 14	7.30pm	Elders' Meeting
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Sun 17	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Service
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 17th is the last day for
October Chronicle material**

Tue 19	2.30pm	Women's Guild: Pilgrim 2000. Mrs Nancy Welch
---------------	--------	--

Harvest Festival & Diamond Jubilee Thanksgiving Weekend

Sat 23	10.00am	Open Church with various displays of flowers.
	-5.00pm	See page 8 for detailed information
	7.00pm	Harvest Supper & entertainment
Sun 24	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Service
	6.00pm	Hymns of Praise with Worthing Area Team & CTG.

*Gift
Day*

Mon 25		Tune in to Southdown Radio on 106.8FM this week.
to Fri 28		- following the success of Worthing Millennium FM Dec 99/Jan 00
Thur 28	7.30pm	Church Meeting

Rededication Sunday

8.00am n
10.30am n
6.00pm n

Early Morning Holy Communion
Family Service with Holy Communion
Evening Worship

Tue 3

2.30pm n

Women's Guild: Wholistic Medicine. Ms Sachas Babbage Clark

Thur 5

7.30am n
2.30pm n

Day of Prayer
Prayer & Praise



8.00am n
10.30am n
6.00pm n

Early Morning Holy Communion
Family Service
Evening Worship

Mon 9

Women in Action. East Croydon URC

Thu 12

7.30pm n

Elders' Meeting



8.00am n
10.30am n
6.00pm n

Early Morning Holy Communion
Family Service
Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 15th is the last day for
November Chronicle material**

Tue 17

2.30pm n

Women's Guild: Guild Care. Mr Tony Thorn



8.00am n
10.30am n
6.00pm n

Early Morning Holy Communion
Family Service
Evening Worship

Thur 26

Church Meeting



8.00am n
10.30am n
6.00pm n

Early Morning Holy Communion
Family Service
Evening Worship



Sat 11th November

Looking ahead

Walk Through the New Testament
at Central URC, Hove.



The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

2000

So now we come to the last pages in this series of articles on the life of Goring United Reformed Church. Many 'pages' have been turned since the early days of the 1930's: virtually traffic free roads; no television and video tape recorders, just the wireless, BBC Home Service and the Light Programme; no freezers, central heating or air conditioning; only a few telephones connected via an operator. During the last seven decades we have seen that a church has been born, many buildings have been erected, a church hall, Sunday school hall and of course a church itself, alterations made to suit the varying needs of the time, and many people have come and moved on to numerous places. Life doesn't stand still, we mustn't allow ourselves to dwell on the past but look forward in anticipation of the good times ahead that the Lord has for us. It is important though that we establish a firm foundation before moving on, and I believe this we have done, when we read the last seven Chronicles. We thank the Lord for the love, commitment, service and devotion these people who have gone before us have given to His Church over the years in order that many

more have been able to come to this place to worship, and for us now to have this church to worship and to serve Him in this neighbourhood.

The twenty-first century has now arrived, 2000 years after the birth of Christ. Who could possibly have guessed, even just ten years ago, that by this year many homes would have computers in them with access to the World Wide Web and with facilities which enable electronic mailing (E-Mail) across the world for the price of a local telephone call! You may be surprised to know that RUTH'S CHAT (Ruth Chatfield's newsletter from Africa) complete with photographs left Ruth's office in the Congo on Wednesday 16th August, to arrive on my computer at about the same time. On Thursday 17th the newsletter was inserted into the CHRONICLE, together with other articles for the magazine ready for Ken Woods to print before the end of August. A copy of the newsletter was also E-Mailed from Worthing to Ruth's friend in London ready for her to distribute within the UK. What will come next ? !!!!

The Editor



Worthing Area Team.

Since the inauguration of the Worthing Area Team Ministry in 1998 an Annual Service of thanksgiving is held with a time for fellowship, tea, sandwiches and cakes.

In May this year St Andrew's hosted the event.

Earthdate 2001 - Team Ministry and the future

Recently all the churches have been looking at the five marks of mission: to treasure, to tend, to transform, to teach and to tell. As we come up to date in the story of Goring United Reformed Church we ask ourselves how these marks of mission can help all of us in the Worthing Team as we cross new frontiers and step into the future together with God.

As with all four churches in the team, Goring United Reformed Church treasures its past and all those people over the years who have witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ by becoming active members of that community. The churches of the team all have different histories and traditions and, by its understanding of the faith, each church has an individual part to play in the life and development of our team. Whilst we seek to come together we do not seek uniformity. Each church has its own special, unique contribution to make to the team.

Churches traditionally tend to the needs of their members, friends and the people around them and this will continue. Our mission as a team is also to tend, by helping each of the churches to grow and develop in their own ways and in their own communities.

The very nature of the Christian life, both for us as individuals and as churches, means that as we follow Jesus Christ we travel onwards towards God. This travelling means that things will not always be the same as they have been in the past.

We are being transformed into nothing less than people of God. At times that can be uncomfortable, not to say painful, but together we share the pain as we share the joy! The life of a Christian should be an exciting adventure, going forward with Jesus towards God. Let us not frustrate God by trying to remain the same but let us recognize the love of God working in us and through us to transform both us and our churches into vital, enthusiastic witnesses to the Gospel of Christ.

By working together we will teach each other and learn from each other.

This will enable us to grow in faith, to grow in our understanding of the gospel, and to grow in maturity.

When we have come to grips with the first four marks of mission we will be ready and able to go out and tell. By the four churches working together as a unit each church will have a vastly increased reservoir of gifts and talents to call upon as together we seek to do God's will in our communities.

The future holds challenges for us as we ask, "How is God guiding us?" and "What does God want me to do?" It also holds amazing, awesome experiences of God's love as we are guided by the Holy Spirit into the ways of God in the years ahead. So let us look forward to the future in confidence and in hope. God has plans for us and we can trust him to the uttermost.

*Norman Croft and Margaret Ashby
Worthing Area Team Ministers*

So what else has happened this year ?

Redecoration of the exterior walls and windows.

The start of a 2 or 3 year programme to decorate the exterior of the church buildings was made at the end of April 2000.

A number of volunteers 'turned up' in their working clothes on Bank Holiday Monday morning ready to start work on the main hall. By the end of the week the hall and one or two miscellaneous area had been beautifully painted leaving the East & West Halls and most of the main church building for another time.



Rev Peter Heckels receives a call to Newcastle upon Tyne

It was towards the end of 1999 that Peter Heckels received a call to preach with a view at High Heaton URC. The Induction followed on Saturday 15th July 2000. This was not only a loss to Goring to which he was called in 1993 but now to the Worthing Area Team. As this issue of the CHRONICLE goes to print it is good to know that a candidate has been asked to preach with a view early in September.

A Newcomer to Goring URC

As a newcomer to Goring URC my memories only date back a few months but I find the fellowship here very caring. It certainly reminds me of a Congregational Church I first attended as a child at Heston. Feeling very nervous I was soon taken under a teacher's wing and made to feel 'at home'.

As I had already attended Civil Service meetings in this Church Hall, when it became necessary to find a church nearer my home, I thought it was just meant to be, at least the Lord thought so.

Of course the occasion I shall remember will be Eileen and Peter's move to Newcastle, just as I had settled down and got to know them! It was good to see so many youngsters at the farewell tea-party who are involved in the church too.

There is one occasion I have yet to see in our church, a baby christened. I will really look forward to such a ceremony in the not to distant future I hope. One of my sons was christened in a Congregational church and the sincerity of that service I have never forgotten. So now I await what tasks the future holds for me and hope and pray that I will manage.

Ivy Madge

... and now ?

I would begin on a personal note by saying how much I have enjoyed reading the story of Goring United Reformed Church as it has appeared in *The Chronicle* in the last few months. The fact that I have known well some of the key persons in the unfolding of that story has added to the enjoyment and made it come alive. As you look now to the next period in the church's life and witness, history must continue to be His Story. For it is Christ alone who has power to mould us into the people He would have us be, carrying on His ministry with the gifts and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Three things related to that ministry immediately spring to mind:

Firstly, ministry rightly belongs to all the followers of Christ and, for some time to come, you remain part of a flourishing Team. The days of churches having their "own" minister have largely gone, a fact that some find hard to accept. But you have now a stipendiary ministry "vacancy" only in the Team and not in the local church. With you, I pray that the vacancy may be quickly filled. Meanwhile, enjoy the variety of preaching which is brought to you week by week - and don't neglect to act upon it!

Secondly, I referred in the first paragraph to "key" persons. If you are a member of Goring United Reformed Church, then you are one of those "key" persons. In the coming years, churches are going to need to rely more and more on the ministry of elders and members, with stipendiary ministers training, supporting and enabling that total ministry. The wise and growing

churches are those who discern and use the different gifts imparted variously to the whole membership. Encourage one another in the discovery and use of those gifts. And, if you can do nothing else, remember that prayer remains the most important part of the life of any church. Talk to the Lord and listen to the Lord - and then obey what you hear, and share it with your fellow members.

Thirdly, changes in society demand that Christians of all denominations speak more and more with one voice as we seek to uphold biblical standards. We live in bewildering and sometimes depressing days but, paradoxically, they are also very exciting. Modern methods of technology and communication open to us previously unknown ways of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. We need to make sure that we use them effectively. Equally important is that we relate the good news of God's love and justice to every part of our world. The impetus of Jubilee 2000 and Commitment for Life must continue into this new millennium.

But I leave with you a question? Who was instrumental in bringing you to Christian faith? Was it a parent, a friend, a teacher, a neighbour, a minister? It must have been a person or persons. With whom are you going to share your faith in Jesus Christ? There will be no Goring United Reformed Church in the years to come unless you all play your part and exercise your ministry, praying that you may be as obedient and faithful as those who have gone before you.

David Helyar
Moderator Southern Province

The Editor

Thank you to all those who have supported me and helped with the contribution of articles for the story of Goring United Reformed Church, without whose help the series would not have been possible. I believe that being able to read various people's personal accounts has made it much more interesting and made the series more alive.

I am very much aware what a precious commodity time is and so appreciate the time spent in thought, preparation, research, and writing of the articles.

I do hope and pray that you have enjoyed reading the past history pages as much as I have in preparing them.

Graham Redman

WOMEN IN ACTION

Monday 9th October 2000
East Croydon URC

10.30am to 3.30pm

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please speak to Carol Webber if you would like any more information or that you would like to go.

If you wish to ask the Panel any questions, kindly let Carol have them by the 18th September.

Programme

- 10.30 Coffee**
- 11.00 Welcome to everyone**
Opening Worship
conducted by Rey.Daphne
Topple
- 11.30 Any Questions Panel**
chaired by Synod Moderator -
David Helyar.
- 12.45 Lunch**
(Please bring your own
sandwiches. Drinks will be
provided)
- 2.00 Thanksgiving Service** conducted
by Rev. Sue Marsh with Jennifer
Rees Larconibe speaking to us
about her life and the charity
Beauty from Ashes.
At some point during the day we
also hope to be able to welcome the
South Indian visitors from the
Rayalascema Diocese in the CSI.
- 3.30 Close of our day together.**

The death of the Rev Joseph Pratt

The death of Reverend Joseph Pratt occurred at Vellore, South India on 23rd October 1999. He will be remembered for his love and dedication in serving the people of South India from May 1961 until his death at the age of 67.

He was born at Lambeth on 12 October 1932, was a member of Lavender Hill Congregational Church. He studied theology at Mansfield College Oxford and St. Andrew's Hall in Selly Oak. It was at Lavender Hill Charles first met him as a member of his Sunday School class. A friendship developed over the years.

Later it was my privilege to meet him and his wife Sugana, a lovely Indian lady. In his book 'Outside The City' Joe Pratt writes about the outcast people having remained for centuries poor, ignorant and superstitious. For generations they have been mercilessly exploited. Their minds still harbour suspicion, fear and insecurity. The task of bringing them into the light and liberty of the Gospel is slow and long. To fulfil that task men and women with faith and hope, with enterprise and vision are required, and who are prepared to suffer hardships and disappointments.

In his 'forward' to the Rev Pratt's book Bishop Hospet Sumitra writes "while no mention of the Christian Mission in India with Educational, Medical and Social work done by missionaries and Indians, Joe Pratt was wholly engaged in pastoral work in a rural area of South India. He was a beneficiary to the natives there. In his zeal and deep concern for these people he identified himself with their way of life."

The CWM's magazine, 'Inside Out' reports:-

At his funeral service Dr. P. Zachariah paid tribute, "two things helped Mr Pratt to make a missionary commitment. The first was an intellectual conviction that this world will never know peace 'til the message of Christ is preached to all. The second was the influence of a Welshman in his church who had retired from missionary work in Madagascar. In Rev Pratt's life we have been granted a glimpse of what God can do with a life handed over to him.

Pheniah Taylor

RUTH's CHAT

(from the FIELD)

No.23*Pointe Noire, Congo***August 2000**

Dear friends!**Here are some "snap-shots" of my travels and activities in recent months:**

Kenya

Nairobi reminded me of England - you drive on the left, and shop in a Croydon's Whitgift Centre look-alike! The conference centre was beautifully laid out with roses, etc., and we awoke to cold, foggy mornings (in June)! The tea plantations nearby, and the ostrich and zebra steaks on the menu at the local restaurant brought me back to Africa.

I didn't go on Safari, but I enjoyed interacting with Wycliffe members from other African entities at our Africa Area Meetings. Some of the key issues we discussed were training, and partnering with national churches - both areas we want to develop here in Congo.

Cameroon

After Kenya I stopped over in Cameroon for a "Cross-cultural partnerships" workshop for Wycliffe members and their African co-workers. Why do we often experience frustrations, misunderstandings, and conflicts in such partnerships?? Did you know that many African cultures are based on giving honour and protecting people from shame, whereas Western societies place more importance on justice and on acknowledging or alleviating guilt?

Our relationships may be based on wrong assumptions, so we need to be better communicators. Sometimes what it boils down to is simply: Do we really trust each other??



With my Cameroonian friend Julienne

All of the team apart from myself has been sick recently... When I wrote these words in my last newsletter, I didn't know my turn was coming! In May I finally succumbed to malaria (after six years of resistance), and then found I had parasites, sinusitis and a blood infection

(virus?)! So my stay in Cameroon was characterised by visits to medical labs for tests, scans, x-rays, etc. However, I was well looked-after by my adoptive Cameroonian family, and had an excuse to stay longer with them until I was better!

In the meantime, a blood test at the beginning of August was **completely normal!** I'm grateful that whatever the problem was, it has gone. ☺

Hot-off-the-press!

The long-awaited Mboshi-French dictionary has now been printed in Cameroon, and Andrea should arrive here

with four hundred copies in a few days time! We are looking forward to presenting it to the Mboshi community in September when we visit Boundji



Roch and Guy continue to be very committed to the Mboshi work. We also need other Mboshis to be involved in the project, if the New Testament is to be translated and literacy classes started...

Teaching a Mboshi alphabet seminar. Roch is on the left.

At the Boundji centenary celebrations at the end of September we will dedicate the dictionary, present the Mboshi alphabet, promote the idea of a language committee, and show the "Jesus" film in Mboshi, as well as selling literature. We now have a booklet explaining the Gospel in Mboshi. Please pray that God's Spirit will give people understanding as they read it...

Brazzaville

Time to move again! Yes, really! Andrea and I plan to move to Brazzaville around mid-September, along with our SIL* colleagues Larry and Cami Robbins. The rest of the Mboshi team, Roch and Guy, will also be in Brazza. We are pleased that the family in whose house we have been living in Pointe Noire is returning to continue the work here. That takes us from four to six adults in the SIL team in Congo!

Being back at our centre in Brazza will make our University contacts easier, and also make the Mboshi-speaking area more accessible. We have a two-week course called "Introduction to Bible Translation Principles" lined up for next March, to which we hope representatives from many language groups will come for training. By then our centre should be set up to provide dormitory accommodation for them.

* SIL is the name by which Wycliffe is known in Africa

For Prayer

- > Praise God with me for the completion of the Mboshi dictionary, and for my physical healing!
- > Please pray for good relationships of trust with our African co-workers.
- > For God's Spirit to guard all of our hearts and minds.
- > For wisdom in the choice of vocabulary for the Scripture booklets we are translating into Mboshi.
- > For Mboshis to come to know the Lord in a real way.
- > For our move to Brazzaville.
- > For on-going peace and stability in Congo.

Praise the Lord, who carries our burdens day after day; he is the God who saves us!

(Psalm 68 v19)

Blessings.**Ruth**

Please note the address change from Sept:
Ruth Chatfield

**S.I.L.,
B.P. 1067
Brazzaville
CONGO**

Internet: ruth_chatfield@sil.org

WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS
Horsleys Green, High Wycombe
Bucks HP14 3XL, ENGLAND

This letter is kindly distributed in UK by Miss Helena Hopiavaara, 90 Veronica Gardens, London SW16 5JS (Tel: 020 8764 5106) Please inform her of UK address changes

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The October edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 1st October. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 17th September.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

October 2000

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

A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry



- *Good news for the Worthing Area Team*
- *Team Barn Dance*
- *Team Barbecue Pictures*

- all on pages 10 and 11



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A Church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

Ministers: Rev. Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
Rev. Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

Church Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 Fax: 01903 260867

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith
~~42 Parklands Avenue~~, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 1ER
Telephone: 01903 821843

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Family Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month. - GAS (God's Appreciation Society) - Junior Church with Crèche |
| 6.00pm | Evening Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month. - Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month. |

Weekday Activities


Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 548

October 2000

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from The Manse ... Rev Margaret Ashby

Dear Friends

As I walked along the beach with our dog at low tide the other day I saw a line of rocks deeply embedded in the sand and I realized that they were just the top of a rock formation which had been in that place for thousands of years, may be even millennia. The words of the psalmist came to mind, "God is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold so that I will not be greatly shaken." (Psalm 62) As I watched the tiny waves breaking over the rocks, gently washing small creatures about in the fronds of seaweed everything seemed so calm and peaceful. It was easy to think God-like thoughts and to liken God to a rock, a stronghold, as I stood there on those ancient rocks, with no waves trying to pull me away, no wind or rain tearing at me as I tried to keep my balance.

Yet the times when we most seek God are, of course, those times when our lives are most difficult, when, metaphorically speaking, the waves are huge, the wind howling and the rain slashing directly at us. Then it can sometimes be hard to remember that God even exists but if we can try to clear our minds and focus on God, then the wind, the waves and the rain lessen and we realize that God is our base, a truly stable rock, unmoving, unyielding throughout the millennia, someone on whom we can rely absolutely.

At this time of change throughout the church nationwide, when congregations are trying to accustom themselves to the fact that there will no longer be one minister to one church, we in the Worthing Area Team are very glad that God is sending the Revd. Andrew Sellwood to join Norman and me as another ordained minister to serve the churches in the Team. It was especially encouraging that all four churches were very much in favour of calling Andrew. Many of us also realized what a powerful force the people of the four churches can be when we all get together. The service we shared on the Sunday morning at Goring opened our eyes to what it can be like if we occasionally come together for worship. Singing in a church where the empty seats were very few and far between was most heartening and many people found themselves talking with people from other churches and realizing that the problems in one church are very often the same as in the other churches.

We tend to find change uncomfortable, especially as we grow older. Perhaps we need to face change remembering the base which God gives us when we trust in him. Whilst we are very far from the wind howling, the waves pounding and the rain pouring, we have felt the breeze quicken a little. This is the time, then, at which to pray that God will guide all of us, all the members of the four churches and especially the ordained and lay members of the group who meet to discuss Team affairs. God is working in each of our churches to help us serve and witness to him. We thank and praise him and trust him day by day into the far future.

With love and blessings to you all

Margaret Ashby

Handbook Amendments

Mrs Brenda Brunton who died on 3rd September 2000.

We give thanks for the life and witness of Brenda and pray for the peace in the hearts of her family and friends.

Thank you

We would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes on our move to Saltdean. We are settling down and have been attending Saltdean URC.

By the time you read this we hope to have seen many of you at the Harvest Supper."

Audrey & Michael Ebeling

House and Fabric Committee
Working Party Day

A working party day is to be held on Saturday 14 October from about 9.15am onwards.

Jobs to include-

Stain garage doors, and part of doors to Minister's Vestry and store room, and other areas.

Garden maintenance.

Touch up decorations

Hoover floor of print room.

Clean gullies.

Removal of graffiti

Examine base of lectern for woodworm.

*All offers of help will be much appreciated
Colin Nodes.*

Unwanted tapes

Please! If any one has any unwanted music tapes suitable for the elderly I will be grateful for them for Brooklands Ward at Worthing Hospital.

Thanking you, Ron Flashman

Tribute to Mrs Brenda Brunton

We who knew and loved Brenda said our Goodbyes on the 14th September to the most courageous lady any of us could know. Brenda bore her illness with such strength, patience and fortitude that I am humbled even thinking about it. I cried during the funeral service but that was pure selfishness. I'd lost a dear friend for Brenda. I was rejoicing that the Lord had taken her unto Himself, relieved her of all the pain and suffering and reunited her with Rachel. After the funeral someone said "remember the good times". So that is just what I am doing. Feeding peacocks on Brownsea Island (Bournemouth camp). 46 stairs between the ground floor and the senior dormitory-very bad planning! (Bath) Playing

rounders on the Common, (Woodford Green) Walking the A24 to the top of Box Hill (Dorking). I could go on and on! I went to thirteen camps!! But the nearest to my heart is the laughter we shared throughout the years. Even when she could hardly move unaided we could laugh together, quite helplessly, over the silliest things. Thank you for all the good times, Brenda. They and you will remain with me always.

Doreen Norris

What a wonderful thing the gift of friendship is and how blessed we are to be able to enjoy such a gift.

My special friend was Brenda Brunton, but then she was everybody's friend in the Girls' Brigade. The Explorers loved her, the Juniors found her to be such fun, especially at summer camps, the seniors enjoyed her wisdom and guidance and Brigaders found in her a true and understanding friend. And Officers? - they just enjoyed being with her whatever the occasion.

Brenda and I retired from Girls' Brigade at the same time and our friendship entered a new phase. We frequently had days out together, sometimes visiting friends but usually indulging in retail therapy!! She and I loved M&S especially when we visited their largest store at Camberley.

The time came however when days out became a thing of the past and our friendship moved on to another phase.

More recently on my visits to Brenda we've dug into our memory banks and recalled happier days and the many memories have been both uplifting and comforting.

I bless the day the Brunton family came to live in Worthing and worship at Goring URC. Many of us will miss Brenda very much but let us be glad for her that she is now free of pain and with the Lord she served so well in and through Girls' Brigade.

Thank you Brenda for the many treasured memories you have left us and thank you for your friendship.

Jean Webb

Church Membership

Have you ever wondered about how the URC came into being and what it means to be a member of it?

Rev Margaret Ashby is planning a series of meetings starting during November to explore questions of what it means to be a United Reformed Church Member.

These explorations will include talking about our expectations and responsibilities as members and also discussing the history and traditions of the churches which make up the United Reformed Church. We will welcome any who would be interested in taking part, whether or not you are a church member already, whether or not you might be thinking about membership.

Please let Margaret know if you are interested so that she can arrange an initial meeting.

She can be contacted by telephone on Worthing 603481 or by writing to her at, The Manse, 34 Southview Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN11 5HT

Mrs Brenda Branton

I got to know Brenda through Girls' Brigade and she was without doubt one of the nicest, funniest and most loving people I have ever met. During the Funeral Service Mr Connolly talked of her love of her family and Brigade and that love glowed in Brenda she always found something to laugh about.

I feel very sad that she has passed away but I know that in the words of her own choice of song she did 'Spread a little happiness'.

Caroline Hibbs

Millennium & Jubilee Celebrations

WORTHING PHILHARMONIC CHOIR AUTUMN CONCERT

Saturday, 21st October. 7.30pm

The Choir, under its Choral Director Donovan Brown, will sing: -

- Requiem by Faure
- God so Loved the World a Cantata by J.S. Bach
- Psalm 100 a setting by H. Schutz
- O Quam Gloriosum vespers for All Saints Day by T.L. de Victoria

The Accompanist will be Leonard Lee

Soloists: Sarah Corp Soprano
John Polwin Bass
Donavan Brown Organ

Programmes at £5.00 each will be available from Choir members
e.g. Eileen Rhodes or Rosemary Terry,
or at the door.

Refreshments will be available in the interval.

Please make this concert widely known - it is part of our Millennium and Jubilee Celebrations, and we are fortunate to be able to host the Choir.

Eileen Rhodes Tel: 248263

Books from Pheniah

ADVENT 2000 - 2001

THE PRAYER HANDBOOK 'SHINING FACES' can now be ordered in time for Advent. — £2.50

POCKET DIARY 2001.

Colours available are Red, Green, Black or Blue. Contents include URC National and Synod information. Full year Planner for 2002, Road Maps and other useful material such as URC Events. If you would like a Diary, please add your name to the list on the Board. — £4.25

IBRA BIBLE READINGS:

Words for to-day 2001 - £5.00

Light for our Path 2001 - £5.00

Light for our path - Large print - £9.00

Finding our way together Books 1 - 4 at £6.50 per copy

PREACHERS HANDBOOK £5.50

Everyday Prayers

More Everyday Prayers

Further Everyday Prayers at £5.50 per copy

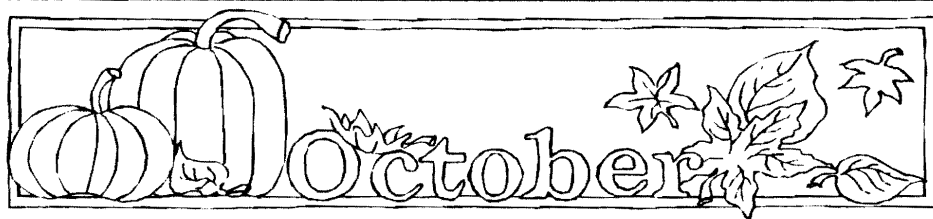
Living Prayers for to-day

More Living Prayers at £12.50

*Please let me know the Publications you may wish to order.
Unless I hear to the contrary, I will place orders as last year*

Pheniah Taylor



for your Diary in 2000...**Rededication Sunday**

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 3 2.30pm Women's Guild. Wholistic Medicine

Thur 5 Day of Prayer



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Mon 9 10.30am Women in Action. East Croydon URC
 -3.30pm - for details of the day refer to page 16 of the September Chronicle.

Thu 12 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 14 7.30pm Team Barn Dance at Shelley Road. See page 11



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 15th is the last day for
 November Chronicle material**

Tue 17 2.30pm Women's Guild. Guild Care

Sat 21 7.30pm Worthing Philharmonic Choir Autumn Concert. See page 6



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Thur 26 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sat 28 10.00am Tearcraft Bazaar. September Chronicle page 6 gives details.
 -12noon



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
 10.30am Family Service
 6.00pm Evening Worship

Mon 30 10.00am Women's World Day of Prayer. See page 13 & Vestibule Notice Board.

Tue 31 2.30pm Women's Guild. Anniversary Service.



Thur 2 Day of Prayer



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thur 9 7.30pm Elder's Meeting

Sat 11 9.30am Walk Through The Bible (New Testament)
- 5.00pm



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 14 2.30pm Women's Guild. Worthing Churches Homeless Project



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

**** 19th is the last day for
December / January Chronicle**

Sat TBA Craft, Cake & Christmas Fayre



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 28 2.30pm Women's Guild. Christmas Party

Thur 30 7.30pm Church Meeting



Looking ahead

Sunday 3rd December

First Sunday in Advent



Team Vacancy Filled

Good news!

The Lord has answered our prayers for someone to fill the vacancy in the ministry team as soon as possible and has sent us Andrew. We thank Him for His gracious encouragement to us all, and look forward to Andrew and his family coming to Worthing in December. More details will be available later. Many of you met and heard Rev Andrew Sellwood over the weekend of 2nd/3rd September which was a happy and blessed occasion, and shared in the call at the special Church Meeting on Monday 4th, attended by 52 members.

Andrew and Jill have decided to live in Goring and the children will start in local schools in January, but his appointment is to the four Team churches and his time will be shared with us all. Initially he may get to know Goring first. We also welcome Simon Franklin of the Littlehampton church, inducted in October, who will spend 25% of his time in the Team, at first with St Andrew's.

So we have much to be thankful for and look forward with eagerness to the new possibilities of ministry and mission.

Jane Bond



A good gathering and a good time was had by all who attended the Team Barbecue organised by Sue & Mike McCue of St Columba's. Approximately 40 people with children attended.

Team BBQ
Saturday
9th September
St Columba's



Worthing Area Team

BARN DANCE

at Shelley Road URC

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER - 7.00PM

Refreshments included

Tickets £2.50 Children £1.00

From Doreen Norris

Charity Card Sale

St Andrew's

Saturday 28th October 10am-12noon

Craft Cake and Christmas Sale

Goring

Saturday 25th November

— Details in next month's Chronicle —

GOOD NEWS ~ GOOD MUSIC

Break into Song.



**Thursday and Friday
October 12 and 13 ~ 7.30pm**

The Assembly Hall Stoke Abbott Road Worthing

2000 Years of Church Music

Modern ~ Contemporary Christian Band

Dance

Salvation Army
Band

Orchestra

St Botolph's
Church Choir

A Joint Churches
Millennium Link Event.



Tickets
£3 EACH
Booking:

Doreen Norris — 503783

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



PREPARATION CONFERENCE for the 2001 Service

The Theme from Samoa is

"INFORMED PRAYER, PRAYERFUL ACTION"

VENUE:

**Bognor Regis United Reformed Church
Linden Road**

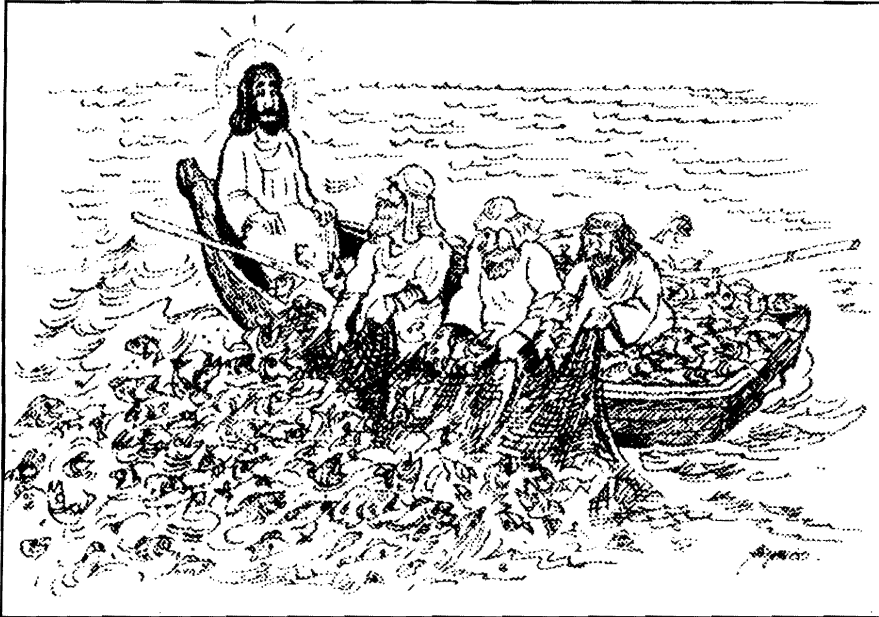
**Monday 30th October 2000
10.00am—3.00pm**

Please see programme on the Vestibule notice board, or speak to Eileen Rhodes (248263) for further details.

Reservations with a non-returnable deposit of £2 should be made to Eileen by 15th October.

Thinking mission

The call to discipleship



© CWM

The miraculous catch of fish in Luke 5. 1 - 11 is one of Jesus' most famous miracles. The passage contains deep truths about the meaning of being a disciple of Jesus Christ that are still very relevant today, explains Chris Baillic.

Reflections on Luke 4. 1 - 11

The fishermen were exhausted. They'd just spent the whole night fishing and now they had to clean their nets before going to bed. The night had been a financial disaster. They hadn't caught a thing, which for them meant no money earned. They were probably grumpy and wanted to get home, go to sleep and try again the following night.

Jesus steps into this situation. Unlike in his home town where people tried to push Jesus off a cliff, the crowd was eager to listen here. It wanted to listen to the Word of God.

With the crowd pressing round him, Jesus borrows the boat - quite a feat when you know how possessive fishermen are about their boats - to make some space.

The crowd settles down to listen.

Once Jesus finishes teaching, he again startles the fishermen with a command. Peter is obviously irritated when Jesus asks him to push out to sea to catch fish.

But his response already shows the mark of a disciple. "I think I know better than you, Jesus," he seems to say. "I'm a professional fisherman and I haven't caught a thing all night. Yet you, a carpenter, think you know best. But because you say so, and because of who you are, I will not trust my judgement, but yours."

Imagine Peter's reaction at the miraculous catch of fish. It went beyond the fisherman's wildest dreams. Indeed, it's a turning point for Peter, one of the great moments in the development of his life as a disciple.

Suddenly he realises more about who Jesus is. Jesus' holiness and authority scare him. God has suddenly invaded the poor fisherman's life and he and Jesus realise that their friendship can never be the same.

But they both react in opposite ways. "Go away from me Lord! I am a sinful man!" says Peter. He's seen Jesus' holiness and feels unsuitable. God's love and purity disturbs him. "I'm not the right friend for you," he seems to be saying to Jesus.

Jesus, however, sees Peter's sinfulness as the very reason why they should be friends. He calls him to follow him: "Don't worry Peter, we're going to catch people. Look what I did with you the fisherman, and think of what I can do with you the human being."

Peter here shows two key characteristics of a disciple. First, he is willing to obey the Word of God despite his own feelings and judgement. A disciple should be ready to do as God says, and not just listen to him.

That's the difference between Peter and the crowd.

Second, Peter understands he's a sinner. Drawing close to God exposes sinfulness and he realises that holiness and sinfulness do not go together. A disciple should follow Peter's example and fall on his knees before Christ.

Only then does Jesus invite us to partnership, like he did with Peter. And he says to us, "I have a plan. I will be crucified for your sin." The disciple answers, "How does this cross thing work, Lord? I'm not sure I like it. But if that's your way, I'll believe it."

Partnership with Jesus is costly. It's a call to mission to the world, with all its unfairness, violence and lost people. At the end of the passage in Luke 5, the disciples left everything to follow Jesus. We have to do the same. We can't tell God to wait a minute while we think about it. It's now or never.



Chris Baillie (above) is minister of the George Town group of churches in Grand Cayman and a missionary through CWM from the UK's United Reformed Church.

Reproduced from Inside Out by kind permission of CWM

Church Publicity - A Bible Quiz

Church Publicity

Are you interested in. Design. Word processing. Computer work. Printing or having a hand in producing some of the Church's literature and publications ?

If you can answer yes to any one of the above, you may like to attend a meeting to discuss the way forward for much of our Church's printing and publicity needs, in particular, producing posters, leaflets, tickets, and our Sunday Service sheet. *Welcome.*

Would you like to know more? — Please let Graham Redman know.

Telephone: 01903 260568

E-Mail: grahamredman@btinternet.com

Can you name these people, all beginning with 'T - Z'

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 The prophet who spurred the people on to rebuild the temple.
Luke 1 | 6 Paul's young companion. Later had responsibility for the church at Ephesus.
Acts 16 |
| 2 Tax Collector.
Luke 19 | 7 Roman Emperor.
Luke 3 v1 |
| 3 Another name for Dorcas.
Acts 9 | 8 One of the 12 apostles who was absent.
Matt 10, John 11 |
| 4 Priest at David's Court.
2 Sam, 1 Kings, 1 Chron etc | 9 Queen whom Ahasuerus deposed.
Esther 1 |
| 5 Paul's companion & fellow missionary. Smoothed things over with the church in Corinth.
2 Corinthians | 10 One of Jacob's three friends.
Job 2 11 |

Answers: -

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| 1. Zechariah | 2. Zacchaeus | 3. Tabitha | 4. Zadok | 5. Titus | 6. Timothy |
| 7. Tiberius | 8. Thomas | 9. Tashi | 10. Zophar | | |

Did you manage to get all the answers right since January ? - if you did you must know at least 90 people in the Bible - well done!

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth

Monday Club

Women's Guild

The Ark for Parents & Toddlers

Prayer & Praise

Kestro (Stroke Club)

Little Fishes Play Group

Emmanus (Bible Study) Groups

Friday Evenings

Monday Evenings

Alternate Tuesday Afternoons

Thursday Mornings

Alternate Thursday Afternoons

Friday Afternoons

Every Weekday

Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The November edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 29th October. Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 15th October.

5 Salvington Hill

High Salvington

Worthing

West Sussex

BN13 3AT

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The CHRONICLE is printed in house by Goring United Reformed Church.

Proof Reading: Ron Jordan

Print Room Manager: Ken Woods. Telephone 01903 505177

The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

November 2000

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

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —



- ***Alpha Course starting Monday
30th October***
- ***Autumn Synod Report***
- ***Pull-out Diary centre pages for November / December***



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

Ministers: Rev Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481
Rev Norman Croft — Telephone 01903 715813

Church Secretary: Mrs Hilary Redman
5 Salvington Hill, High Salvington, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
Telephone: 01903 260568 Fax: 01903 260867

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith
42 Parkfield Road, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 1ER
Telephone: 01903 821843

Worthing Area Team Lay Person: Mrs Jane Bond
51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY
Telephone: 01903 244157

Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Worship

- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- GAS (God's Appreciation Society)
- Junior Church with Crèche

6.00pm Evening Worship

- with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month.
- Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month.

Weekday Activities

Please see inside rear cover

The CHRONICLE

No. 549

November 2000

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 Alpha Course
 Christmas Coffee Morning

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6-7 **Southern Synod Report**

8 **World Church & Mission**



Church Publicity

Are you interested in, Design, Word processing, Computer work, Printing or having a hand in producing some of the Church's literature and publications ?

If the answer is yes to any one or more of the above, and you like to know more — please let Graham Redman know.

Telephone: 01903 260568

E-Mail: grahamredman@btinternet.com

Dear friends

As autumn comes and the nights draw in what is nicer than the thought of cosy nights spent by the fire { or round the radiator }. But even so there are occasions and events that drag even the most home loving of us outdoors. One of these, for me, is the Littlehampton Bonfire night parade. The Bonfire Society here have a motto *We burn for good*, and that is just what they set out to do. Last year thousands of people lined the streets to watch the parade, and then gathered round a giant bonfire in one of the sea front car parks. As a result some £6,000 was raised for local good causes.

One of the ways John the Baptist described Jesus' future ministry was like this, Matthew 3 v11 'He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire', and then in Luke 12 v50 Jesus himself described His ministry like this 'I came to set fire to the earth'. Strange words perhaps, so as we approach bonfire night let us think about them for a moment.

Fire what does it do?

If you want to get rid of something what is easier than setting fire to it. Jesus wants to get rid of the sadness, bitterness and hatred that it so prevalent in the world today. He wants to set fire to it!

If you are cold and need warming up, what to you do?. You find a source of heat, you look for a fire. Jesus wants to warm the world with the love and peace that only He can bring.

When it is dark you need light to see by, and of course a fire can provide it. Jesus is 'the light of the world'. It is Jesus who gives direction and vision to the world.

And fire is also an excellent source of energy. Steam engines are powered by fire. Jesus, through the Holy Spirit gives power to the world. Jesus is the power source for Christians all over the world.

The motto of the Littlehampton Bonfire Society is 'We burn for good' The motto for all Christians could be 'We burn for Jesus'.

'He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire'.

Norman

Handbook Amendment

Change of address:

Sandra Hipkin
150 South Farm Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN14 7AU

Church Family

We remember Betty Razzell and her family in our prayers as she mourns the loss of her grand-daughter, Deborah, daughter of Lesley.

Debbie grew up in this church during the 1970's and 1980's, attending Junior Church and Girl's Brigade in all its activities.

She died on Tuesday 3rd October.

Reform

Subscriptions for Reform will shortly subscribe to Reform, and also if you be due - £9.50 for the year 2001. wish to start receiving the magazine.

Please let me know by the 5th
November if you no longer wish to

Thank you, Sue Nicholls

Alpha Course

We are starting a new Alpha course, to be held at our house, 15 Harvey Road, on Monday 30th October at 7.30pm. We shall start with coffee, followed by a video and then there will be one or two questions to think about and discuss.

We do not think the evening will last later than about 9.00 or 9.30pm.

This course is not ONLY for enquirers but for anybody who wishes to explore their faith and talk about things which concern them.

If you are at all interested please telephone us on Worthing 506452. Meanwhile please pray for us as we take over from Peter, and also for the people who will be attending.

Roy & Sheila Gooderham

Christmas Coffee Morning and Sale
Saturday 2nd December 10 am—12 noon

Bric a bac Handicrafts
Teas & Coffees Cakes Children's Competitions Drinks
Mince Pies Christmas Stationery



Mon 30 October 7.30pm Alpha Course. - see page 3

Thur 2 Nov Day of Prayer



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thur 9 7.30pm Elder's Meeting

Fri 10 7.30pm Adrian & Bridget Pias talk on their visit to Bangladesh
At Brighthelm URC. Tickets £5.00 & £3.00. Phone 01273 301314

Sat 11 9.30am Walk Through The Bible (New Testament) at Hove Central URC
- 5.00pm



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service
6.00pm CTG Evening Worship at St Lawrence's

Tue 14 2.30pm Women's Guild. Worthing Churches Homeless Project

Sat 18 10.15am-12.30 Christmas Market at St Columba's



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

**** 19th is the last day for
December / January Chronicle
material**



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship


Tue 28 2.30pm Women's Guild. Christmas Party

Thur 30 7.30pm Church Meeting



Sat 2 10.00am Christmas Coffee morning and Sale in the Church Hall.
-12.00noon

First Sunday in Advent. Bible Sunday


 3 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 5 1.00pm Inland Revenue Carols


Thur 7 Day of Prayer

Sat 9 'Christmas 2000' Service at Assembly Hall




 10 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Family Service. Gifts and Toys.
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 12 2.30pm Women's Guild Christmas Service


 17 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Tue 19 Durrington High School Christmas Festival

 24 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Mon 25 10.30am Christmas Morning Family Service



 31 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship



Looking ahead into 2001.....

Thursday 1st or 4th January New Year Prayer Day Vigil

Saturday 6th January Twelfth Night Party

Saturday 13th January Induction of Rev Andrew Sellwood into
Worthing Area Team Ministry.



Southern Synod Meeting: Saturday 14th October

Synod met at St Bede's School, Redhill and was opened by Rev David Skit and young people from Reigate Park URC. St Bede's enjoys ecumenical links, and the young people described the school's 10 year link with a school in Tanzania. Pupils exchange visits of up to four weeks and help in fund raising for the work in Tanzania. Synod also heard from two of the church's young people who read us words which they had written just prior to their recent Baptisms. **Bible study** was led by Mrs Rosemary Johnston advocate for children's work "In our Midst" Mark 9 v 33-37. She asked us to ponder, 'if I were a child in my church I would...' Possible answers which came from the floor included, 'I would like more of *them* to know my name', 'I would like to be welcomed at Holy Communion', 'I would like to be more involved', 'I'd like to know, where have all the children gone?' 'I don't want to be a ghost from the past', and so on. As adults we need to recognise that with children in our midst everything we decide has a consequence for them. **Personalia:** We gave thanks for the lives of Rev Alan Parker, and Rev Peter

Goodchild who have died, we remembered sick friends Rev Janet Sowerbutts, Rev Geoffrey Haigh, Rev Ian Bird. **Synod's - main theme:** "Youth & Children's work" was introduced by Howard Nurden. 'How do we journey with children?' Some have recently been heard to say 'everyone is too busy to talk about God' and to ask 'how do you pray at home?' We should remember that young and old are doing the same things. He invited us all to attend the Youth & Children's Work forum at E. Croydon URC - just turn up and join in -this is the responsibility of the whole church. Synod then received a presentation from the **Purley Pilots**. Pilots is a non - uniformed organisation for children of all ages with a faith and fun mix. They enjoy organised and free play, tuck, and teaching time includes videos & games. The group hoped to start with 20 children, only 10 came but it soon grew and now they have 30. The children attend, and take part in, family worship once a month. The leaders say they have a sense of renewed purpose and refreshed courage.

Resolution from FURY Council and Children's Work Forum: Synod was asked to adopt the following resolution:

Youth and Children's Work in Local Churches

All churches should give consideration to their work with young people and children To help achieve **this**:

- a. Local churches should appoint an Elder to oversee youth and children's work. This role should ensure the following takes place,
 - encouraging the church to consider its strategy for youth and children's work;
 - advocate youth and children's issues at Elders and Church meetings;
 - maintain links with **all** youth and children's groups within the church or who use the premises;

- be a point of contact, named in the yearly church return, and facilitate the transfer of information between District, Synod, National and the local church;
- ensure young people and children are represented where applicable in the committees of the church, District and Synod.

Southern Synod urges that all churches should appoint an Elder to carry out this role regardless of whether they have children and young people attending the church at present.

b. In the light of the FURY Review, we request that:

- as part of District visitations, churches are encouraged to explore the place and support of children and young people in the church;

churches are made aware of the support that is available for youth and children's work. The resolution was carried, with one abstention.

Mission Council Report was not ready, but Mr Ian Chalmers asked the meeting, 'do we consider the church buildings millstones or keystones?' He was urging members to re-evaluate buildings as a resource for 7 days in the week, and suggested that the report, when it comes will help with mission into the 21st century.

Lomas house: CWM is selling Lomas House and Synod is looking at the possibility of purchasing the property for use as a Retreat and Training Centre, whilst maintaining the homes of the residents. Provincial Council met in September to look at a feasibility study, but did not reach agreement. Synod, therefore was asked to meet again on November 25th for further discussion.

After lunch Rev Barry Scopes introduced Bishop Frederick, Pastor Theophilus, and Dr Helen Davison, visiting us from **The Church of South India**. Bishop Frederick had been baptised by Barry Scope's father. He spoke about how the missionaries had brought the Gospel to India; his hopes for the 3rd millennium; of the terrible suppression of human rights for women and the outcast society; the Dalites, the outcasts; the persecution of

the Christian Church by Muslims and Hindus. He asked "Please pray for us - please come to India, we look forward to the liberation of women, we have a programme of Evangelism and Mission, and a programme for training." The Moderator, the Synod Clerk and the Treasurer were each presented with an Indian stole.

The Convention of World Churches in Australia: The Moderator and colleague shared news of their visit in August meeting both under the Southern Cross and the Cross of Christ. "We need to die as a church to be born as a mission. If God so loved the world why can't we?"

The story from Croydon: we were told about 'The Foyer' an ecumenical project involving Oasis, the Council's Housing Department and schools. The hostel provides for 18 residents who would otherwise be homeless. Here they learn living skills and job skills. The project is for young people and it is young people who choose and run the fund raising activities.

Synod closed with an act of worship. The November venue is to be announced.

Hilary Redman, Synod Rep.

PEOPLE: **An award from the queen** - JOAN JONES went to Buckingham Palace to receive the MBE title from the Queen. The citation reads 'For Services to the Community of Botswana.' Asked to spell this out, Mrs Jones said 'All I have done is respond to needs and opportunities as they came before me.'

There were in fact many of them. At Maun her main concern was with her young family, but she also led the Girls' Brigade. At Kanye she formed and led a Ranger Group and was national Girl Guide Secretary. At Gaborone she conducted a large bilingual Sunday School and a Sun beam (Brownie) pack.

Later her involvements diversified. She was one of the founders of the first SOS Villages for Botswana orphans. She helps with Childline, and was a prime mover in the effort to divert street boys in Gaborone into a better way of life. For 36 years she has led the Trinity Ladies in their fundraising for carefully selected community and individual needs. She also counsels people, especially those with marriage difficulties.

PRAY WITH US

UNITED CHURCH OF SOUTH

AFRICA - Living Lord, you are the God who goes before your people to lead like a shepherd, and who follows after them to guard and correct.

We praise you for the beauty of our land; the circling mountains, fertile fields and bountiful oceans.

We thank you for all the people you have brought together in this place, the diversity of languages, customs and cultures.

We bless you for enabling us to understand that you have always been at work in the life of our people and have promised yet more good to us.

We confess we have plundered your creation for our own immediate, selfish ends and have not lived in harmony with nature.

We confess we have not lived in peace and charity with others made in your image. We perceived them as different, lesser. We treated them shamefully, scarring your image in others for whom Christ died.

We confess that by our stubborn rejection of your royal way of love, we have diminished your good purpose for us all, and the mind of Christ has not always been in us.

Remind us of our great heritage of faith, that as we learn to celebrate the richness of our differences, we may know our oneness in Christ and work to extend your kingdom of justice and peace in our land.

Guide our leaders and guard our people, that we may prosper in all that leads us in righteous ways. Then bring us, in the end, to our completeness in you. For Jesus Christ's sake, Amen.

Weekday Activities

Fellowship of United Reformed Youth	Friday Evenings
Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestra (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Every Weekday
Emmanuel (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The December and January editions of The CHRONICLE will be combined into one magazine available on Sunday 3rd December.

Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 19th November.

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The CHRONICLE

December 2000
& January 2001

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

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —



Jesus is the Reason for the Season

*May the blessing of Christ be with you this
Christmas and for the new year to come.*

*A
Child Is
Born*

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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 Rev Norman Croft (Part time) — Telephone 01903 715813
 Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) — Telephone 01903 713 506
As from Saturday 13th January 2001 -
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Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-

St Andrew's: Mr Leslie Stewart 01903 722610
 St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton. 01903 260992
 Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

Sunday Services

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am | Holy Communion |
| 10.30am | Family Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month. - GAS (God's Appreciation Society) - Junior Church with Crèche |
| 6.00pm | Evening Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - with Holy Communion & Ministry of Healing on 3rd Sunday in month. - Worthing Area Team Service, 2nd & 4th Sundays in month. |



The CHRONICLE

No. 550

December 2000/January 2001

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Dear Friends

Christmas always seems to be a festival which we particularly associate with families. Those of us with families look forward to it as a time when, if possible, we can be together celebrating the coming of the Special Child into the world.

It is wonderful that families who live a long way away from each other try to get together at this time of year but, of course, not everyone can always do that. Those of us who are alone, though, do try to meet together with one or two friends so that we can share quiet peace and joy as we remember the birth of Jesus. Remembering the birth of Jesus is important and it's also important to realize that we need to be a little wary of becoming over sentimental about Christmas.

Despite the pictures we see on Christmas cards, the coming of God's Son to the world took place in poverty and degradation. To



be born in a stable, at first glance, might seem almost charming with gentle donkeys, fluffy lambs, soft eyed cows, yellow sweet-smelling straw to make a bed, and angels singing in the rafters. The reality of birth, wherever it takes place, though, is very different from that. To be born in a stable really means confrontation with mice and rats, dirt and disease and a very definite lack of privacy. When God's Son came to earth it was certainly not in a way which was fitting for any child. We see that right

from the beginning of Jesus' life the forces of darkness recognized who he was. When Jesus had faced the Cross and come victoriously through death on that first Easter morning the way in which men and women could relate to God changed significantly. This is the reason for celebrating Christmas. Jesus Christ, who came to earth as a tiny Baby, makes it possible for us to come to God through him in a direct way, much like the way in which a child can come to a parent. This awesome truth is the real reason for all our joy and love expressed in so many ways.

Most of us are able to share our Christmas dinners and exchange presents. We decorate our houses, and children (and some adults!) put up stockings for Father Christmas to fill on Christmas Eve. Christmas trees are bedecked with tinsel and decorations and many front doors have holly wreaths welcoming callers. All these activities are ways of sharing the joy of Christmas, of sharing a feeling of happiness, of awe and wonder at the inestimable gift which God has given us in the birth of his Son, Jesus Christ.

So let's not forget God's gift to us even in the middle of all the hustle and bustle. If we're out shopping or listening to the radio and we hear all sorts of Christmas jingles we just might remember one of our own. It is very short and goes like this: "Jesus is the Reason for the Season".

The ministers of the Worthing Team and their spouses wish every one of you a happy and blessed Christmas.

With love and blessings to you all,

Margaret



Handbook 2000

The Church Handbook has been completely reviewed and is available for you now at the back of the church at 50p each. An envelope is provided for your contribution.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who gave money to enable me to buy my own gown. It was a lovely surprise and will complement the hood which I already have. Thank you very much.

Geoffrey Redman

A tribute to Mrs Florrie Freeman who died on 17th November

Sunday by Sunday Lily and I watched with bated breath whilst Florrie struggled in and out of my car. She would not accept any help. But with sheer determination, and trust in her Lord, she continued to attend Sunday Worship at Goring right up to the last month or so when it became physically impossible for her to continue.

Those who know her well know how stoically she bore her disability. There was never a grumble and always a smile for anyone who spoke to her.

For many years Florrie served on the Church Mission Committee and was

very active as Area Leprosy Mission Secretary - a work very dear to her heart.

Florrie, with her husband Will, came to worship at Goring some years ago and they always took a keen interest in the church activities.

Florrie leaves behind her son Alan, daughter Christine and her dear friend Norah, who looked after her and Will for so many years. We pray for each of them as they come to terms with their loss.

Audrey Gerlach

Early Morning Holy Communion Service

From Sunday 3rd December for the duration of the winter months, the 8.00am Holy Communion Service will be held in the Cornwall Room. This is to help with heating problems within the church.

Robin Bradley

Note from the Elders' meeting

Early in the year some interest was shown in arranging an away weekend for the fellowship of Goring. Places do get very booked up and it may be some time well in to the future before we could get away. However, if you would like such a weekend, and could make enquiries and plans for such an event please would you let the Church Secretary know as soon as possible.



The



The Ark is continuing very successfully under the leadership of Sarah Etchells.

She has brought many new and imaginative ideas to the group. Toddlers and parents enjoy the art activity she creates every week, and we have made various things including a mosaic tractor (for Harvest – which can still be seen in the Hall), bookmarks, material houses, boats and hats of people who help us (nurses, fireman, policemen etc).

The weeks leading up to Christmas will involve the making of cards and crackers and ending with a party.

We have a few new faces. Some people have come and gone, some have stayed. New people are always welcome so if you have a neighbour or relative nearby with a toddler do tell them about the Ark. It can be a way to introduce people to Jesus and maybe their first experience of Church.

We start at 9:30am on a Thursday morning (term time only) and finish at 11:30am.

If you have finished your kitchen paper roll please don't throw the cardboard tube out. Could you leave it in the Resources cupboard before the 14th December?

Any questions to Gaynor Anderson Easey. (Tel: 539868)

The Women's Guild

The Women's Guild of the Church continues to meet fortnightly and despite inclement weather we have had a good attendance at each meeting.

Our speakers have come from various sections of the Community and at our Anniversary Service we were joined by members of surrounding Churches.

Recent talks have included 'The Old Rectory Crowhurst', Pilgrim 2000, 'Holistic Medicine', Guild Care and Worthing Churches Homeless Project.

On 12th December we will share in our Christmas Service.

We look forward to the coming of Andrew, Jill and the children and when they are settled we hope for a visit from them.

Our meetings re-commence on Tuesday 2nd January when we shall have a Members' afternoon. At times like this we are able to get to know one another and there will be a warm welcome for anyone (male or female) to join us.

We wish all a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

Joan Burrage



Ministry of Church Flowers in 2001

Would you like to provide the flowers in the Church on Sundays for a particular occasion, e.g. birthday, anniversary, in memory of a loved one? The list for the year is in the vestibule for you to sign and if you feel able to purchase and arrange the flowers yourself please sign both columns. Please give your

contribution to Pheniah Taylor.

Do you have surplus foliage (i.e. pittosporum, choisya, skimmia, eucuba, privet, eucalyptus) in your garden that could be pruned occasionally for the flower arrangers to use?

*Please let Audrey Gerlach know
(501153)*

New Year's Prayer Day Vigil

Please make a note in your New Year diary that Thursday 4th January will be our special day of prayer. Throughout the day, every member of our Church, plus everyone connected to the Worthing Area Team of churches will be prayed for individually. Do add your name to the list to be placed in the vestibule and be part of this special time of blessing to us all.

Thank you. Robin Bradley



WELCOME - future issues

Please note that future issues of *Welcome* will be edited and produced by a team of four people: Gaynor Anderson Easey, Ken Woods, Carol Webber and Graham Redman.

As from *Welcome* date, Sunday 7th January would you please be kind enough to ensure that material or queries for this and subsequent issues of *Welcome*, reach the 'Week's Editor' by the preceding Sunday. The 'team' proposes to work in sessions of one calendar month for each person, starting in January with Gaynor; February with Carol and March with Ken. Every *Welcome* sheet will indicate who will be taking responsibility for the following week and a rota will also appear in *Chronicle*.

The new team of editors pray that you will find this way of working acceptable and that all will run smoothly for you, but if you find that you have any problems or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to one of the team. Thank you.

Graham Redman

Worthing Area Team

You will be pleased to hear that Rev Andrew Sellwood's induction to the Team is arranged for Saturday 13th January at 2.30pm followed by tea. It will be held at St Andrew's, Rustington and is for everyone, so we hope that you will be able to come. We are expecting a full church on this occasion.

Many calls are made upon the Ministers' time and therefore it is important that we respect the Ministers' days off.

These are: Simon Franklin - Monday
Norman Croft - Wednesday
Margaret Ashby - Friday

If you need pastoral help or information, or want to contact a minister, your Elder is always willing to put you in touch with the right person.

Jane Bond

The CHRONICLE

Articles

In order to help with the production of the church magazine will all contributors please be kind enough to submit future articles already typed to the Editor. If you are unable to type the material yourself and don't know of someone who could type for you please speak to Graham Redman who will gladly put you in touch with a typist.

Order of preference for submission of articles:

1. E-Mail: thechronicle@btinternet.com
2. Computer disk.
3. Typed document on paper.

Leaders, Secretaries, Chair-persons and Representatives

It would be much appreciated if the above people would consider writing an occasional or regular report of the organisation to that which they belong or represent etc, for printing in the CHRONICLE. I am certain that many of our readers who are unable to attend Church Meeting for varying reasons, would welcome the opportunity of seeing these reports appearing in the magazine.

Many thanks for your continued interest and help.

Graham Redman Telephone: 01903 260568

Fax: 01903 260867



Worthing Churches present . . .

A large, circular, stylized design that resembles a compass rose or a starburst. It has a central eight-pointed star with radiating lines, surrounded by concentric circles and smaller stars. The design is set against a dark, textured background.

Christmas Unwrapped

An evening of carols with
J John
The Assembly Hall, Worthing
7.45pm Saturday 9th December 2000
Tickets £1.50 available from 01903 700522

**First Sunday in Advent. Bible Sunday**

3	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Worship



Tue 5 1.00pm Inland Revenue Carols

Thur 7 9.00pm Day of Prayer

Fri 8 2.15pm Townswomen's Guild Choir "The Essence of Christmas" See page 16

Sat 9 From 9.00am Working party in Manse garden.
7.45pm Assembly Hall. "Christmas Unwrapped" Page 7

10	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Service. Gifts and Toys.
	6.00pm	Evening Worship

Tue 12 2.30pm Women's Guild Christmas Service

Thu 14 7.30pm Elders' Meeting



17	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship with carols and readings
	3.00pm	Afternoon Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Tue 19 7.30pm Durrington High School Christmas Festival

24	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship
	5.30pm	Nativity Service with Junior Church
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion at St Columba's

Mon 25 10.30am  **Christmas** Family Service

31	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.00pm	Evening Worship

for your Diary in 2001...



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Tue 2 2.30pm Women's Guild. Members' afternoon.

Thu 4 from 8.00am New Year's Prayer Day Vigil

Sat 6 7.00pm Twelfth Night Party. See back cover.

Sat 7 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion
6.00pm Evening Worship

Thu 11 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 13 2.30pm Induction of Rev Andrew Sellwood to Worthing Area Team.
at St Andrew's. Tea afterwards.

Sat 14 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30pm Family Service
6.00pm Evening Worship

**** 14th is the last day for
February Chronicle material**

Tue 16 2.30pm Women's Guild. Wilfred Rhodes talk on recent visit to Oberammergau

Sat 21 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm CTG Evening Worship at Goring New Life . Goring First School

Thu 25 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sat 28 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 2.30pm Women's Guild. Cyril Selby talk on 'Worthing As Was'



Looking ahead

... to a new series, *A Month in the Life of...*

starting with Rev Margaret Ashby in February's Chronicle.





A letter from the Moderator Southern Province

Dear Friends,

The first year of the new millennium is almost at its close. Or is it about to begin?

The different views about the actual birth date of Jesus Christ will undoubtedly continue, and I am not personally convinced that it really matters much. What matters supremely is that, in the fullness of time, "the Word became flesh and lived among us." That is the glorious and breathtaking reality which lies at the heart of our faith and for which we offer to God our adoration and our praise.

The other day I was asked if I really believed that this world is millions of years old. The person posing the question had in mind the Genesis story of Creation and the fact that it didn't seem to match the scientific evidence. "But does it really matter?", he continued. "Surely what matters is that we believe that God is the author of all that is and that he loves all that he has made." Amen to that!

It is very easy for us to be side-tracked or even confused by unnecessary and unhelpful theological argument and speculation. We are part of a society which itself questions everything and which holds anyone's opinion to be as valid as anyone else's. Any concept of objective truth is dismissed by many, leaving us to believe what we like.

For the Christian disciple "truth" and "belief" relate not to opinions and ideas but to "the God who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2.20). God cannot finally be "proved", but God's grace and love can certainly be experienced through our relationship with his Son, Jesus Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, died on Calvary, and lives for ever as Lord of time and space. We may not see him, hear him or touch him, but through faith and prayer God in Christ is as real as breathing. Even when he seems to be absent, the words written by a Jewish prisoner in Cologne express the reality of faith..

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining,

I believe in love even when I cannot feel it.

I believe in God even when he is silent.

(Continued, top of page 11)



(Continued from page 10)

As Christmas comes round again, we celebrate the God who, 2000 years ago, did not remain silent, but spoke to us by a Son. Ours is the joyous privilege and responsibility: of worshipping that Son who is worthy of the best that we can offer; of proclaiming that Son who came to bring fullness of life to all humankind; of living by the grace and in the strength of that Son, whom to serve is perfect freedom and joy.

This is my fourteenth and last Christmas letter to you all and, from a full heart, I can only thank you for all that you have given and shared of that faith, hope and love which is made real through Jesus Christ.

Mary joins me in Christmas and New Year love and greetings.

Yours in the fellowship, of Christ,

David L. Helyar

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RUTH's CHAT

(from the FIELD)

No.24

Brazzaville, Congo

December 2000

Dear Friends,

"This is dangerous" Andrea said to me, as we bounced along the dirt road to Boundji in an overloaded truck in the dark... "We could easily tip over!"

A few minutes later, the truck leaned too heavily to one side in a mud hole, could no longer right itself, and 14 people plus three cartons of Mboshi dictionaries were flung out into the (thankfully dry) grass at the side of the road! Andrea had a cut to the head, and two other people had leg injuries (but no broken bones). After a night spent camping out with the mosquitoes in the savannah, we were able to get some basic medical attention and proceed to Boundji, rejoicing in God's goodness in sparing us from far worse injury.

CENTENARY

That was back in September, when Boundji celebrated it's centenary. We were still able to launch the Mboshi dictionary, and it was enthusiastically received. The four of us in the Mboshi project (Andrea, Roch, Guy and myself) were called up onto the platform at the main Catholic centenary mass, so that everyone could see the team planning to translate the Bible into Mboshi.

ANCMbo

Andrea and Guy have been busy in Brazzaville contacting many Mboshis and getting them together to create a Mboshi cultural association (ANCMbo), with the aim of promoting the Mboshi language, helping with the task of literacy, etc.

Out of this initiative, a small group of Mboshis have now started to produce a bi-monthly Mboshi newspaper. We are excited by these developments, although they have produced a lot of work for us.

ABLAC

Another interesting development which has come out of Pointe Noire has been the idea of creating another association, this time specifically for the translation and use of the Bible in Congolese languages (ABLAC).

There is still much work to be done to promote the vision for churches using Mother Tongue Scriptures, but the important thing about this initiative, is that it is coming from Congolese themselves...

Our future dream is to have a close working relationship between SIL, ABLAC and the Congolese Bible Society, to enable us to tackle together the task of making God's Word accessible to Congolese in the language they understand best.



2001 CALENDARS

I wonder how many of you know what the following Bible verses are, without looking them up??

- * John 3v16
- * John 14v6
- * Matthew 22v37
- * Romans 6v23

These are the verses we have chosen to translate into various Congolese languages to publish on our calendars for next year. My dream is that these key verses can become known in the different languages, and perhaps memorised and used for evangelism. We are praying for their impact on peoples lives, since the verses will be displayed in many people's homes during the coming year.

BRAZZAVILLE

It's good to be back in Brazzaville after three years of absence! The city is peaceful, and various reconstruction projects are underway. The train has started running again, bringing supplies up from Pointe Noire on the coast.

One interesting recent development has been the arrival of mobile phones. Just like in England, it's not uncommon to be interrupted in the middle of meetings by someone's mobile phone ringing!

SHORTAGES

However, the shortages are not all over! The city suffers from time to time from fuel shortages, and water and power cuts.

Here at SIL, we are facing a critical personnel shortage. We are seriously stretched in trying to respond to interest

and requests for help from a number of language groups. Next June, the team will again be reduced to four, as two of our members go on furlough. Please pray for new SIL workers for Congo, as well as Congolese co-workers to fill some of the gaps! Thank you!

We continue to ask God to bring glory to His name as we work for the technical development of Congolese languages and for Bible translation and literacy in these languages. May God's blessings be also on you as you go about your daily tasks!

Christmas & New Year Blessings!

Ruth

Ruth Chatfield
S.I.L.,
B.P. 1067
Brazzaville
CONGO

Internet: ruth_chatfield@sil.org

WYCLIFFE BIBLE
TRANSLATORS
Horsleys Green, High Wycombe
Bucks HP14 3XL, ENGLAND

This letter is kindly distributed in UK by Miss
 Helena Hopiavaara, 90 Veronica Gardens,
 London SW16 5JS (Tel: 020 8764 5106)
 Please inform her of UK address changes.

Mission enabling is about switching churches from maintenance mode to mission mode, explains Lindsey Sanderson who is mission enabler for the United Reformed Church Synod of Scotland.

I visited a Church in Sheffield last year and paid particular attention to the toilets and kitchen. I said to someone in the Church that at the moment success came in the form of disabled toilets. 'Oh No.' was the reply. 'I had hoped the Church was beyond discussing the state of its toilets.' But for many Churches I work with, toilets are the heart of the matter.

I have been mission enabler for the former

Congregational Union of Scotland - now the United Reformed Church Synod of Scotland - for just over three years. I am its first ever mission enabler and the primary focus of my work is with local congregations. I work with them to evaluate, carry out and plan their involvement in God's mission. I also work with our area groupings of churches and with the national structures of the synod.

Some congregations have used the mission enabling project to think about mission in their communities. People have rediscovered involvement in mission through the five faces of

mission: proclaiming the gospel, nurturing and teaching, loving service, transforming society and caring for the environment. This has led them to think again about how they relate to their local community, how they can be a resource for the community and how they serve the needs of their community. But church buildings have become a problem. For many congregations, maintaining the building drains resources. Increasing government legislation on health and safety means higher investments in facilities.

In a few years churches will have to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act if they want to be open for public use. So access for people with disabilities -

from reduced hearing and sight to mobility problems - will be needed. And a disabled toilet becomes central to the church's participation in mission.

Time out for mission.

Going forward then needs a shift from thinking in maintenance mode to thinking in mission mode. One of my mission enabling projects is called 'Time out for Mission'. It encourages congregations to take a step back from the busyness of being church to think about what it means to be in the

(Continued on page 15)





(Continued from page 14)

community. Mission enabling is about people in a congregation working out how best they can share in God's mission. Each congregation has its similarities but each one is different. God has invited us to share in mission doing it in a creative and enjoyable way.

Working with culture

REV. MARJORIE LEWIS-COOPER from the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands has completed her missionary service with the UK's United Reformed Church where she worked as a multi-racial, multi-cultural advisor. This was a new post in the URC central office.

After a short sabbatical she will take up a scholarship for a master's degree at Selly Oak, Birmingham, before returning to Jamaica.

Law and order in Bangladesh

ANDREW AND ROSEMARY SYMONDS, Anglican missionaries through CWM with the Church of Bangladesh, update us on their move to Mirpur. 'Law and order in Bangladesh still deteriorates with corruption going unchecked. Power is held by those with money, and it grieves us that so much of the funding sent to those in need ends up in the pockets of those who already have. Church work in the slum is growing, with 125 women in the saving scheme and receiving education and training.

Over 100 youngsters come to the school daily, and some street children attend a lunch time class.

Pray for the Church of Bangladesh, that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, being salt and light in this country with so many problems.

All of the above are taken from Inside Out..... Pheniah Taylor

Tearfund Report

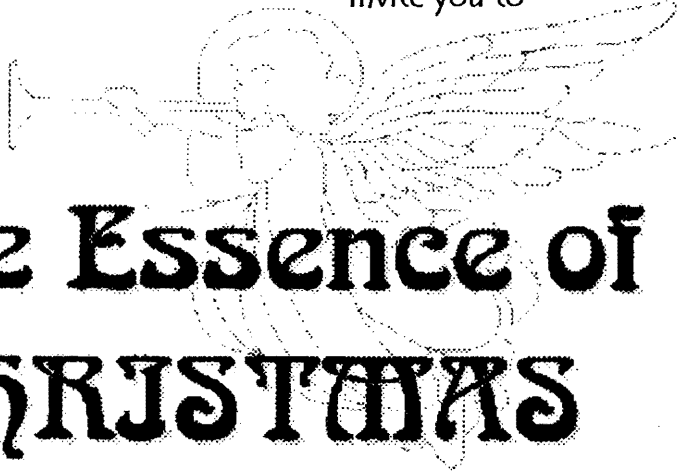
The Tearcraft Bazaar held on the 28th October was not a huge success. Takings were down this year. £200 worth of stock was sold last year and this year was only £167.38, plus orders taken amounting to £52.25.

Coffee donation was rounded up to £16. Although the number of people attending was higher, less was spent. Personally, I found the stock I borrowed very similar to last year's. There probably will not be a Tearcraft event next year.

Gaynor Anderson Easey



The Federation Choir *of the*
West Sussex Townswomen's Guilds
invite you to



The Essence of CHRISTMAS

The 2000 year old story retold
again in a programme of music
and words to herald the true
new Millennium.

Goring United Reformed Church,
Shaftesbury Avenue, Worthing
on Friday 8th December at 2.15pm

Programme: £1.00 at the door

Weekday Activities

Monday Club
 Women's Guild
 The Ark for Carers & Toddlers
 Prayer & Praise
 Kestro (Stroke Club)
 Choir Practise
 Little Fishes Play Group
 Emmanus (Bible Study) Groups

Monday Evenings
 Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
 Thursday Mornings
 Alternate Thursday Afternoons
 Friday Afternoons
 Friday Evenings
 Every Weekday
 Various times & days

The CHRONICLE

The February edition of The CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 28th January.

Articles please to the Editor or placed in the box in the Vestibule by Sunday 14th January.

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The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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. Thank you.

New Year date for your diary

TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY

Goring United Reformed Church Hall

Saturday, January 6th 2001

7.00pm to 9.30pm

Tickets 75p Under 12 years 50p

Includes Buffet Supper

Please let us make a special occasion of this event to round off our Millennium/Christmas celebration and as our way of welcoming ANDREW, JILL, JAMIE, ELIZABETH and EMMA into our Fellowship.

Further information will appear in WELCOME, or you may telephone me on Worthing 503783.

Doreen Norris