

# *The* CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

*January - December 2001*

*Volume 58*

Documents digitised 2006 — 2008

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

# The CHRONICLE

February 2001

---

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

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

---



*starting in this issue of The CHRONICLE  
with Rev Margaret Ashby*

*New series: A Month in the Life of ...*

---

## 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 602481  
                      Rev Norman Croft (Part time) — Telephone 01903 715813  
                      Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) — Telephone 01903 713 506  
                      Rev Andrew Sellwood — Telephone 01903 248259

*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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Jane Bond  
 51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY  
 Telephone: 01903 244157

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

- 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.

---



---

# The CHRONICLE

No. 551

February 2001

---

## Contents:

- 2      **From The Manse - Rev Norman Croft**

### Our Church

- 3      New Members  
        Tapes of Services to borrow  
        The Story of Goring URC Booklet  
        A tribute to Mrs Florrie Freeman
- 4      A thank you to Little Fishes from Kestro  
        Outreach & Evangelism
- 5      Twelfth Night Party

### Worthing Area

- 6      Retirement of Rev William Purvis  
        Rev Andrew Sellwood's Induction
- 7      CTG Ecumenical Lent Course
- 11     Women's World Day of Prayer
- 12-13 A Month in the Life of ... Rev Margaret Ashby  
        (*a new series looking at the lives of the Team  
        Ministers and the Groups within Goring URC*)

- 8-9    **for your Diary . .**



- 10    **FURY ASSEMBLY**  
        Report of FURY Assembly at Hoddesdon 2001

### World Church & Mission

- 14    The Church is dead Long live the Church
- 16    The gift of the Holy Spirit  
        The Bible Society





Dear Friends,

Since moving from London to Littlehampton nearly 5 years ago, I have discovered many things about the town. There is the annual regatta, there is the annual bonfire night celebrations, there is the annual carnival and there are the spiders! Just as well that Jo and I do not suffer from arachnophobia! They are every where. As fast as they are 'invited to leave' others take their place. Some even seem to like spinning their webs between my car wing mirror and the door, so when I leave home I take the offending spider with me. They are not usually there on my return, having decided that high speed travel is not for them, they leave somewhere during the journey! So in this way I generously share my Littlehampton spiders with the rest of Sussex and so helping others discover for themselves, the benefits of having spiders in their gardens.

It is just the same with the Christian gospel. How will others discover it if we, that is you and me, do not share it.

Jesus commands us to share the gospel with these words, in Matthew's gospel { ch5 v 14 - 16 }. 'You are like light for the whole world. A city built on the top of a hill cannot be hidden, and no one would light a lamp and put it under a clay pot.

A lamp is placed on a lamp stand, where it can give light to everyone in the house. Make your light shine so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven.'

Palestinian houses at the time of Jesus were dark, so lamps were important and with the dark evenings of winter this is not too far from our current experience. As lamps were difficult to re-kindle in those days, they were covered when people went out so they might burn without risk and Jesus used this feature of every day life to make his point. Light, said Jesus, is meant to be seen and shared, not hidden from view and, likewise, the Good News that He brought to the world is to be seen and shared.

Our faith and trust in Jesus must be seen. There is no excuse for secret discipleship. We are called to be like Jesus, to be light in the world. Our good deeds will shine in our homes, work, neighbourhoods making God's love real to others. This involves our whole lives, our words, our attitudes, our ambitions, our relationships, our use of time, our resources. We are all called by God to share the gospel just as I share my spiders.

*Norman*

## New Members

We are pleased to welcome into full membership of the Church the following:-

Mrs Ivy Madge, Mrs Violet Jones, Mr Ron Flashman,  
Mr Michael Donnelly in November;  
and Mrs Betty Razzell & Mrs Monica Leal in January.

## Congratulations

and Best Wishes to  
  
**Ron & Eileen Jordan**  
  
on the celebration of their  
  
**Diamond Wedding Anniversary**  
  
30 January 2001

## The Story of Goring URC

A 28 page A5 booklet has been produced depicting the life of the church from its beginnings in the 1930's to 2000 when the Diamond Jubilee was celebrated. The booklet is a compilation of articles taken from last year's series of articles in the Chronicle.

A sample copy is available for you to see at back of the church, and if you would like one at £4.50 each please leave your name on the list provided.

Some people have already spoken to me and if you are one of those, kindly put your name on the list, thank you.

*Graham Redman*

## A tribute to Mrs Florrie Freeman who died on 17th. November 2000

The World Church Mission Committee remember with sadness and loss the passing of Florrie Freeman, called to Higher Service.

The memory of Florrie will be one associated with the Leprosy Mission as Area Secretary for many years. She and her late husband Will together, were ardent supporters of the Cause, both in the Material and Spiritual activities sharing concern for the afflicted. This was an excellent partnership working towards a cure to eliminate Leprosy and to heal where the stigma and discrimination still hurts.

We remember Florrie as an uncomplaining gracious lady, a lady who was a committed steward in her capacity in The Ministry of Healing.

"My children, our love should not be words and talk. It must be true love, which shows itself in action," - 1 John 3. 18.

*Pheniah Taylor.*

*Our Church*

# Little Fishes Nativity

**I**t was very good of these Little Fishes friends to come along to Kestro Club just before Christmas to give their version of the birth of Jesus Christ. Great talent was displayed by them all and the scene displayed a number of surprises.

Although some writers have not revealed the exact day and time of the birth of Jesus, these details do not matter very much. The important thing is that He came into the world to show His love for all people at all times. Therefore, all nations should pay homage to Him for this important factor.

This lovely nativity play, beautifully portrayed and a constant reminder of the Kingdom of God caring for all people everywhere and for ever, is something for which we must all give thanks.

Thank you Little Fishes and your Carers for giving such joy to people who have



been sick for some time and may God bless you in your coming days as you grow up into big fishes.

With love from all in the Kestro Club—our love was shown by the visitor at the end of the afternoon.

*Thomas Lyons*

## Outreach & Evangelism

**T**he Outreach & Evangelism Committee that met up to September 2000 agreed to show a video tape called 'The 60 Minute Parent' to the parents of children who meet on our premises.

We had not been able to arrange suitable dates for this to be shown until now, and this is to inform the church that the showing of this video, presented by Rob Parsons, a committed Christian, will be

on Thursday evenings 15th February and the 1st and 15th March at 7.30pm in the Harris Room. The parents of Little Fishes, Junior Church, the Ark and Monday Club have all been informed and replies are coming in.

Please include this outreach in your prayers and if there are any other parents who might like to see this video please let me know.

*Sheila Gooderham*



# Twelfth Night Party Saturday 6th January



*A good spread*

**Thank you Doreen and your band of helpers for organising such a splendid evening. It is estimated that at least 70 attended.**

*Please keep an eye on Welcome for this year's Social Planning Meeting date. You will be invited to attend if you are interested in such events.*

**Puzzles, dancing, team games, good food and drinks, fun and laughter, music, friends, visitors, young and old alike were all to be found at Goring URC's Twelfth Night Party on Saturday 6th January.**



*Prizes to be given*



## Rev William Purvis retires from the pulpit



*Behind Mr & Mrs Purvis are from left to right -  
Jane Bond and Doreen Norris*

Mr & Mrs Purvis receive a gift at the end of the morning service on 31st December 2000.

William says that now he has reached 80yrs of age and served well over 60yrs in the pulpit it is right for him and his wife Virlie, to sit together in the pews! We wish them both, God's blessing for the future. Mr Purvis has since written, thanking us for the kindness expressed to them both on the occasion.

## Rev Andrew Sellwood is inducted to the Worthing Area Team at St Andrew's on Saturday 13th January

**A** full church meant that some had to gather in the 'Welcome Lounge' for the Induction Service led by the Moderator of the Southern Province, Rev David Helyar. The Rev John Proctor who was poorly during that weekend sent his apologies as he was unable to give the address. Rev Mark Ambrose, a friend of Andrew's stepped in at short notice. He started with a joke as he said this is the way



... afterwards, tea with time for a chat

John would have opened his talk. Mark said that the task of a new minister is to preach Jesus Christ in life, death and in the resurrection and to sow the seed. It is God's prerogative to make the seed grow. The farmer's work is never done, he said, there is always more seed to sow. It is a demanding task, but the members working together with Andrew will be setting out on a wonderful new adventure. Let God do the work and all the glory will be His for evermore. Amen



## Ecumenical Lent Course

- beginning in the week  
of 4th March



**M**oney - getting, spending, owning, giving and wanting it - is one of the chief concerns of adult life.

As things stand, important as money is to us, many of us have not explored its relationship with the other deepest values we profess. In fact, we can, as American Jesuit John Haughey writes, 'read the Gospel as if we have no money, and spend our money as if there was no Gospel.'

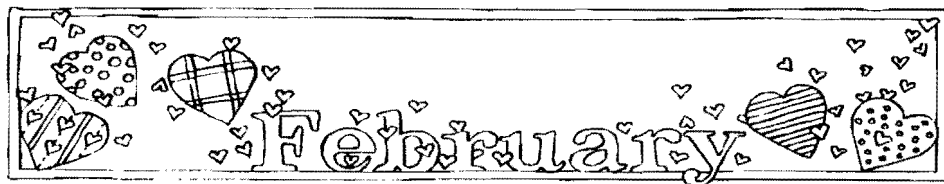
The Ecumenical Lent Course this year is called *For Love or Money*. It is organised by *Christians Together in Goring* and is designed to explore our attitude to faith and wealth. Each of the five weekly sessions includes Bible study, discussion, group exercises and personal reflection. We hope that they will result in a different attitude to wealth and a different way of praying.

Each session has been written to explore our actions about money in the light of what could be called a 'gospel twist'. For example:

- Getting: what kind of 'more' are we seeking?
- Spending: how do we hear God's call in the marketplace,?
- Owning: money affects each of us, how does it affect all of us, as a community?
- Giving: what kind of giving is good news?
- Wanting: how do we make sense of all the things we desire?

We explore money and faith because we long for God's order and priorities to reign in us. We know from experience that recognising our heart's deepest desire - regardless of what it is - means that we want other things less. Jesus knew that too, as he gently reminded his disciples to seek the 'pearl of great price' (Matthew 13: 45, 46). In pursuit of this treasure, he said, we find the Kingdom of Heaven. In all the talking, sharing and praying of this course we hope people will find ways to live more and more like that merchant, in pursuit of that pearl.

The Lent Course meets in small groups in people's homes around Goring. You will receive information about these groups in church, and will have the opportunity to book yourself into a group on (or following) Sign-up Sunday on 11th February.



Thu 1 9.00am Day of Prayer  
7.30pm Church Meeting

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

Thu 8 7.30pm Elder's Meeting

**11** 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Family Service  
6.00pm Evening Worship

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

**\*\* 18th is the last day for  
March Chronicle material**

Wed 21 Holiday Club Fun Day

Thu 22 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sat 24 10.00am - Team Elders' Day at Littlehampton  
4.00pm

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

Wed 28 Ash Wednesday

### Other dates from Church House:

#### **Cell Church of Tomorrow. 13th March**

Seminar is for Ministers & Key Leaders. anyone interested in exploring church structures that are appropriate for the 21st Century. Info: Chris Bocutt. 01303 814115

#### **A Day for Evangelists Summer Meeting (Mega Conference). 1st May**

St Andrew's Church. Oxford. £5.00 each

Info: Mrs Joe Phillips, 7 Little Aceage, Old Marston, Oxford. OX3 0PS



Thur 1 9.00am Day of Prayer



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

1st Sunday in Lent

\*\* March Chronicle available today

Thur 8 7.30pm Elder's Meeting

Sat 10 Synod Meeting at Eastbourne



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

Thur 15 7.30pm Sussex West District Meeting



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.00pm CTG Evening Worship at English Martyrs RC

**\*\* 18th the last day  
for April Chronicle  
material**

### Mothinger Sunday



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

Thu 29 7.30pm Church Meeting



## Looking ahead . . . . .

8th April Palm Sunday

15th April Easter Day

13th - 19th May Christian Aid Week

13th May. 10.45am Team Service at St Columba's







## ***FURY Assembly***

12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> January 2001

High Leigh Conference Centre

Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire

Report by Paul Redman

**I**n this article I would like to tell you about my weekend away at the 2001 FURY Assembly. The acronym FURY is made up from Fellowship of United Reformed Youth. FURY is for anyone in the URC between 11& 25 years of age.

This year it was held at the High Leigh Conference Centre in Hoddesdon, just off the A10, 10miles North of J25 on the M25. To my surprise the journey was very easy and took me less time than expected. The weekend started on

**Friday evening at 6pm** and that's why I had imagined a long journey through heavy traffic on the M25. I arrived, booked in and found my room. (yes my own room with a wash basin!). I had been handed a bundle of papers on my arrival some of which could be filled in immediately, whilst others could be read at my leisure. Dinner was at 7pm so I had ¼ of an hour or so to sort myself out.

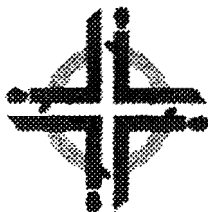
After dinner the assembly was officially opened with a time of praise & worship lead by the Revd. Carole Gotham.

There was a special 7 piece band to lead the music for the weekend – they were all very gifted. The theme of Source, Guide and Goal was going to be used for each day of the weekend. The theme song for the weekend was introduced at this time too, it was, "Eternal God your love's tremendous glory".

After the initial gathering we divided into Synods (small groups) with others from our respective provinces. I was of course with the Synod for the Southern province. In these groups we had a, "get to know each other time", very good for me because I had gone on my own. This activity took place with each Synod occupying a separate meeting room within the conference centre.

**Saturday:** The day started at 8am with prayer. After breakfast was praise & worship lead by Carole followed by "Who Wants to be a FURY-AIRE?" Behind this title was a very cunning way of introducing the FURY Council Reports using the, "Who Wants to be a

*(Continued on page 11)*



## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Women's World Day of Prayer Movement celebrates its annual Day of Prayer on **Friday, 2nd March**.

The service comes from the islands of Samoa in the Pacific Ocean, where the people live simply and life centres around the family and extended family groups, and there is great reverence

for the Samoan way of life.

Religion is one of the most important aspects of Samoan culture and is incorporated in the island's motto "Samoa is founded on God". About 99% of Samoans are Christian.

As we learn about their country and the vast needs of so many in the world today they urge us through their chosen theme, "Informed Prayer, Prayerful Action" to have eyes to see, ears to hear and hearts to respond.

You are invited and welcome to join in one of the services in this area as follows:-

**3pm. BURY DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH**

**Speaker : Mrs. MARGARET ASHBY**

**8pm. St. ANDREW'S CHURCH, WEST TARRING**

**Speaker : JAN ROWLAND**

*Further details about the services and the Bible Study and Prayer Preparation meeting are available from Eileen Rhodes Tel 248263*

*(Continued from page 10)*

"Millionaire" game show idea. This was bang up-to date & was done using a lap-top PC and LCD projector along with the game show's music to make it seem very authentic. The prizes were a build-up of sweets from small ones to large chocolate bars, the jackpot prize was a FURY 2000 T-shirt! The weekend was broken up with sessions of voting and electing known as "Motions", workshops, meals, sleep, coffee breaks and presentations by various reps from the URC and other Christian organisations.

### **Saturday evening/night:**

Assembly's evening of entertainment. A live Jazz band in one hall and a pop band in the lounge, the former being the

praise & worship band, both were excellent. Soft drinks and tuck were available throughout the evening, the music finished at about 12.30am.

**Sunday:** The weekend ended with a communion service led by Carole Gotham and Bill MaHood. The chairs in the main conference hall were stacked to the edges of the room and people then sat on the floor in their provincial groups for the duration of the service.

If you would like to know more come and see me.

The next FURY Assembly will be in 2002 at York.

— o-o-O-o-o—

# A Month in the Life of ... Rev Margaret Ashby

Margaret Ashby is one of four ministers within the Worthing Area team Ministry.

**D**ecember in the life of this minister has been even busier than usual.

The last month of the year is always a month of great contrasts - the happiness of families over Christmas, the happiness of the Church family, too, but also the loneliness of more elderly people or those who live alone. Some of us also have difficult anniversaries to cope with, yet others look forward to family members they seldom see visiting them from far away.



*Margaret at home with her husband, Norman and their dog, Ruth.*

The month began very early one morning, when, walking our dog, a woman I see walking hers occasionally stopped and talked with me about a situation which was worrying her. Ruth, our dog, is getting used to being interrupted in her walk and has learned to be very patient. What she really finds difficult, though, is going out in the dark on the Sunday mornings when I am conducting Communion at 8.00 am.

Conducting two extra services of Communion in the afternoons for people who are normally housebound, at St Columba's and Goring, was something very

worthwhile even if few people came to either. I hope to keep those services going about three times a year if possible. However, they did mean that I was conducting three services on each of three consecutive Sundays, and I began to realize that the normal expectation of the URC for two services in one day is really very sensible.

A highlight of the service for the first Sunday of Advent, at Shelley Road, was the lighting of the



Advent candle by the very youngest person (aged 5 months) and the very eldest (aged 97). The following week was the young people's service at St Columba's and the fact that a few of the shepherds and onlookers taking part in the nativity scene were somewhat disabled gave the whole thing a definite note of realism, setting the story in the world we live in, rather than a never-never land of life that is continually easy for everyone.

In the winter there seem to be more deaths and this December was no exception. We give thanks for those who have lived long, faithful lives of service to God. Visiting recently bereaved people is very draining but, as in the case of talking with people who are dying, it is a privilege to be with them at such a time.

The contrasts of the month continued with a ministers day of spiritual refreshment organised by the Southern Synod, followed by Friendship lunches with elderly people living alone and a meeting of the Bible study group. At the Christmas service of the parents and toddler group one baby screamed so much she had to be taken out and another, three years old I think, calmly told us that, of course, Joseph wasn't Jesus' daddy, God was.

Home Communion, which is always special, was shared with someone unable to get to church, and the service for the Women's Guild, to which the other Team churches were invited was a chance to share Christmas poems as well as prayers, scripture and carols. Welcoming Durrington High School to the Goring church for their carol concert took me

back some years in my own life. Sadly the Cub Scouts play and the Scouts fancy dress party had to be cancelled because of the flooding but at least Norman and I didn't have to rack our brains as to what to wear!

Receiving a present of a calendar from the Undertakers could have been somewhat startling but was much appreciated as were all the cards and good wishes which we received. The usual services continued, of course, as well as visiting as much as possible. At one point at least one person from three of the four team churches was in Worthing hospital which simplified visiting them somewhat!

Visiting my own father, taking the cat to the vet several times, and getting ready for visitors and family to stay over Christmas completed this time, which in fact was not a month, only three weeks! Having married Norman, a husband who does all the cooking, and much else besides, has made it possible for me to work at this kind of rate. The absolute necessity to begin the day with a Quiet Time has also been vital in simply keeping me going.

For both Norman and me, Christmas has been exhausting, exciting and also a time in which we felt the closeness of God. The 8.00 am Communion on Christmas Eve, together with the 11.30 pm Communion on the same day were especially full of peace and joy, which we hope was felt by other people too. Taking a deep breath, we look forward to next Christmas!

*Margaret*

- Next month: Rev Norman Croft -



## THE CHURCH IS DEAD LONG LIVE THE CHURCH.

Threatened by extinction, the tiny churches of rural New Zealand may have a crucial lesson for the whole Christian Church, writes S.

Andrew Morton.

Members of St. Andrew's parish face facts. The Church Building is beyond repair and they have no funds to keep it standing. This is New Zealand, one of the world's most secularised countries, where Christianity has rapidly lost its place in society. St. Andrew's is part of South Canterbury in South Island amid beautiful rolling hills of grazing sheep and cattle. But it is also empty of people. Mechanising the farms has pushed out the labourers who lived there. To make money, farms need to be larger. Smaller farms close, merging with their neighbours, or are bought by outsiders with no interest in the Church. The meat processing plant in Pareora used to employ many local residents - but no longer. Those who remain are the elderly, single parent families, ex-drug addicts. Once, children went to school here and were sure of a local job. Now there are just three local schools and the university is a 100 miles away.

The only shops left in the area are a garage and a grocery. Depopulation shows itself in the churches. Neighbouring Waihao parish has 53 active adult church members, St. Andrew's has 17. The Mission Resource Team leaders of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ) admit, "The Church no longer has an effective way of providing sustainable ministry of Word and Sacrament in some parts of the

country." This is the death of a Church, - and a remarkable story of how local Christians are rediscovering new life. In 1975 the Anglican and Presbyterian Churches in St. Andrew's and Waihao, unable to make ends meet financially, agreed to become cooperating parishes. Each tradition came to learn about the other's styles of worship and management. Church buildings and other property were gradually sold off. With still dwindling numbers, each parish finally lost its minister. Both parishes struggled with having to give up church buildings. But as the joint Regional Committee, formed from the major denominations in 1997, says, "We need to get real about real estate". Losing a former Presbyterian or Anglican church, though, helped members escape their denominationalism and just "be the Church". In St. Andrew's, members have come to see themselves simply as "the church community". But the minister's dog-collar and the church building are the local church's shop-window in the community. The fundamental questions asked "What is the church?" "What about its mission and ministry?" "Where was God leading this part of the Church - New solutions are

needed for new situations. The obvious answer was to turn to the church members themselves. But they had to think of being a church without clergy. Waihao had benefited from having a minister before who had spent time training and encouraging lay ministry. The members of St. Andrews realized they had expertise and skills among the members to share too. The next step was to lose the mindset that said mission is about getting people to come to us. The gospel goes out. A hall was opened for a play centre; church members now run a holiday club as a service to single parent families. Members go to all the schools to provide weekly Bible classes. The Church Army teaches members how to share their faith. To mark the new Millennium a gospel for every house in the parish was bought and organised teams to visit and deliver them personally was arranged. Last year, the parishes decided the future of their

ministry depended on developing the skills of lay people. They decided, with help from CWM resources, to appoint a ministry supporter. Enter Rosie Staite, a bubbly enthusiast with a passion for promoting people and their talents. She is also a planner and helps focus church members on the future of worship services, outreach in the community and facing tough decisions about buildings. "I am not a replacement minister," she says, "I'm a supporter of lay ministry." Her arrival has brought a big smile to our faces" says Treasurer David Draffin, and her impact on members' confidence is clear. In Westland-Buller, a Presbyterian lay appointment has applied for permission to baptise. Cooperating parishes, like St. Andrew's, want discussion about the leadership of Holy Communion. The Canterbury region mission resource team co-director, says: The Church cannot afford to be deaf to the new insights and questions as congregations take up their mission responsibility in new ways. As a national and ecumenical church, we are challenged by the confidence of the local Church. These rural parishes have an importance far beyond their numerical size. They are opening up a crucial debate for all churches about the need for change and about what the Church exists for. If churches fail to serve the community around them, why should they survive?

---

#### *HALLMARKS OF A HEALTHY CONGREGATION -*

*The health of a congregation may be judged by:-* An involving leadership; Outward focus, a concern for evangelism and community care; Sense of direction; Relationships with the wider Church locally, nationally and beyond; Lively faith; Worship which is true to God, enhancing life; A strong sense of community; Newcomers and numerical growth. *How does your church measure up?*

---

## THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

By Lloyd Vidler from "Rural Churches Sharing Good News in Rural Communities", Vision New Zealand/PCANZ.

Ralph was in his 60s. For many years he had been a faithful member of the Digby Congregation, which slowly diminished over time.

Ralph was a woodcutter. He and his brother farmed a few acres of their own and did casual work for neighbouring farmers. He had very little formal education, having left school early. Everyone knew Ralph belonged to the Church. He was reliable, honest, caring and hospitable. He played the organ and did a bit of preaching. Late in life he felt the need to study for the Lay Preachers' Certificate. His minister encouraged and coached him. In a neighbouring parish something happened which led the Presbytery to end its minister's appointment. After a time, during

which the parish dealt with some of its anger, they asked if Ralph might be allowed to be their part-time minister. The Presbytery agreed.

So Ralph led worship and preached every Sunday. His pastoral care was greatly appreciated. He continued to study and became an accredited lay preacher. His humble way of life and cheerfulness made him a valued person alongside his ordained colleagues. How is it that a man of such humble origins and limited education ended up as a trusted pastor, reading widely and with computer skills? All that ability must have been there from the beginning. It had to wait for the right moment. The circumstances which provide the opportunity to develop and use one's abilities are surely a gift of the Holy Spirit, who empowers people to action.

*'The Church is dead, long live the Church' & 'The gift of the Holy Spirit' are taken from the magazine 'Inside Out' and are reproduced here with kind permission of CWM.*

**BIBLE SOCIETY** A big thank you to all who contributed to the grand total of £140 collected in December last for the work of the Bible Society. The amount given in the Church envelopes came to £87.80 and £52.20 was kindly allocated by the World Church and Mission Group to this very worthy cause.

*Margaret Butcher*

*Rev David & Mrs Bedford Groom came to visit Goring URC on December 3rd, Bible Society Sunday, when David preached. We have since heard that Mrs Bedford Groom, whom we knew to be in very poor health, sadly died at Christmastime. The Church Secretary has written to David on our behalf. Editor*



### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Every Weekday
Emmans (Bible Study) Groups	Various Times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The March CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 4th March. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or computer disk) to the Editor by Sunday 18th February. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material yourself.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

E-Mail: [thechronicle@btinternet.com](mailto:thechronicle@btinternet.com)

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 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

February 4, 11, 18, 25	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334
March 4, 11, 18, 25	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Gwynor Anderson-Easey	Tel: 01903 539868





# The CHRONICLE

March 2001

---

*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*

Ministers: Rev Margaret Ashby — Telephone 01903 603481  
 Rev Norman Croft (Part time) — Telephone 01903 715813  
 Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) — Telephone 01903 713 506  
 Rev Andrew Sellwood — Telephone 01903 248259

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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Jane Bond  
 51 Ilex Way, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4UY  
 Telephone: 01903 244157

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

- 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.

---



---

# The CHRONICLE

No. 552

March 2001

---

## Contents:

2        **from The Manse .... Rev Norman Croft**

**Our Church -**

3        Pastoral News

4        Junior Church and Young People

4,5      **Sussex West Report**

6,7      **for your Diary**



8        **A Month in the Life of Rev Norman Croft**

**World Church & Mission**

10       CWM - A new logo

Christian Aid

11       We need true worship

**Other**

12       Church Life Profile

Rowland Singers



### **Tearfund Sunday – 11<sup>th</sup> March**

The family service will be followed by the Tearfund Austerity Lunch. This will consist of soup and a roll and a dessert of fruit. All are welcome for fellowship, a meal and support of God's work through Tearfund.

Anybody wishing to help on the day please see Gaynor. Tel: 539868

As this is also Junior Church Fun day you are welcomed to stay on after lunch.

Dear friends. Hi! Its me again!

In the Mail on Sunday two weeks ago I spotted this:

'A couple of chaps decided to go into the real ale business. They set up their brewing plant and eventually after several false starts succeeded in producing a clear light brown liquid that looked good enough to drink and enjoy. Just to make sure all was well they sent a sample of the laboratory for testing. In due time the lab report came back. 'Dear sirs. Unfortunately I do have to advise you that your horse has diabetes'. [don't worry it was on their joke page]

This story however, did serve to remind me that sometimes our creations do not always go as planned. It also served to remind me that we all do have creative abilities that we can bring to our church life. When the church meeting at Wembley Park URC, where my mother - in - law was a member for 50 years, were told of her death they reflected on how they remembered her best, and that was as a pray-er! She couldn't get out a lot, especially in the later years, but she always prayed. They were creative prayers, and they were informed prayers. She made sure that she knew the issues that were concerning the church and who was under stress or ill, and she prayed for them. Betty Scopes, a Wembley Park minister, always said that whenever she visited mum she was the one who was prayed for. And I think that there is a lesson for us all here. Prayer is not something that stops when we can no longer play an active part in church life rather it is something that we, can spend more time engaged in.

Scripture lets us have only small insights into Jesus' prayer life. Often we are just told that Jesus went to a quiet place and prayed. But we do have the prayer that Jesus prayed in the garden of Gethsemane at what was probably the most difficult time in his life. Look at John 17 and you will find it.

And along side the Lords Prayer itself it does give us a guide on how we construct our own prayers.

Jesus prays that his followers are kept true to the faith. How important this is that we are true to the gospel all the time.

Jesus prays that his followers are kept from evil. How important it is that we keep to Jesus' standards in all that we say and do.

Jesus prays that his gospel is spread throughout the world. How vital is the task of everyone in the world has the, opportunity of hearing the gospel message.

Jesus prays that his followers are united in all that they do in his name. How vital it is in the world as it is today that Christians are at one in all that they do in the Lord's name.

Prayer is the power house of the church. let us make sure that we use it to the full.

*Norman Croft*



## Pastoral News

### Handbook Amendment

#### Page 16

#### Move

Stuart & Karen Higgins are moving to Australia early in March. We wish them well and God's blessings for the future as they move to a new home and a new life!

#### Page 19

#### Death

Mr Norman Redman died peacefully in Worthing Hospital on Tuesday 13th February. He was 89½. Norman was formerly a choir member, an Elder and Treasurer of this church during the 1970's.

## Thank yous

*Eileen & Ron Jordan sincerely thank all who contributed in any way to their happiness on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding - whether it was by music, word, greetings cards, flower arrangements, iced cake etc. etc.*

*Thank you again and blessings to all.*

*Eric & Barbara Popplestone wish to extend their grateful thanks to all their church friends for the beautiful flowers which they received on 5th February. They were a source of great joy and contributed to their speedy recovery from coughs and colds which afflicted them both recently.*

*Graham, Hilary, Paul & Geoffrey Redman thank everybody for their words of comfort, prayers, concerns, cards and letters following the death of a Dad and a Grandad (Norman Redman). They are glad that his time in hospital was short.*

*Norman had said that he only wanted to go into hospital if he was going to get better - They believe he did !*



## The Story of Goring United Reformed Church

If you haven't a booklet on the story of Goring URC and would like one at £4.50 each, please sign your name on the table at the back of the church. An example can be seen on the table.

## Junior Church & Young People

Since the 4th June 2000 G.A.S. (God's Appreciation Society - Young People's Group) have provided refreshments after most Sunday morning services. The donations given each week soon began to show a profit and G.A.S. decided that this money should be sent to a local children's charity/cause and The Children's Centre at Worthing Hospital was chosen to receive the first six months donations. We are pleased to announce that £56.15 has been raised and together with the retiring collection following the Junior Church's Nativity on Christmas Eve a cheque for £110.00 has been sent to the appeal fund for The Children's Centre. Thank you for your support and generosity.

*G.A.S. and Junior Church*

## SUSSEX WEST DISTRICT REPORT

January 12th at Shelley Road URC

**The meeting was opened with devotions led by the Rev Norman Croft**

### Executive Council Report

Personalia: Mr Ian Chalmers was elected to serve as President for 2002 to serve for 2 years, following Rev Kenneth Lynch. Desmond Curry asked if anyone would like to attend General Assembly in York 16th-19th July.

### Property & Finance

District was reminded that Manses should be sold if likely to be empty for any length of time. Money raised from letting is to be used solely for the purpose of repair and maintenance of the Manse.

### Pastoral Care Committee

Rev Andrew Sellwood and Rev Jean West were welcomed to the District. Jean is to be part of the Brighton Team

and Andrew the Worthing Team. The Pastoral report for Telscombe Cliffs was accepted. The Church Secretary there has been in touch with the DEME (District Evangelism & Mission Enabler) and there are new plans for the Sunday School. Chichester Baptist Church is negotiating with Bosham URC to plant a new Baptist Church within the Bosham fellowship. The meeting voted in favour of supporting this venture. Goring URC asked District to authorise two Lay Preachers. Mr Maurice Young of Bognor URC and Mr Simon Richards of Wick Evangelical Mission, to preside at Holy Communion. The meeting agreed in the case of Mr Young but deferred that of Mr Richards pending further knowledge of his background at Wick.

### Evangelism

Rev Graeme Allan asked members to

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

let him know what churches are doing in the way of evangelism. Interviews are being held for DEMEs, there will be one for each District Council.

#### Youth & Children's Work

Paul West, District Youth Contact, shared news of activities arranged for 2000. The Seminar on Pastoral Care of Young People & Children was followed by a meeting to discuss the appointment of paid youth & children's workers within Districts. This will come to District Council later. District Leaders day was held at Sompting in November and included training in Bible Exploration, music, games, discussion starters, disruptive behaviour. Twenty leaders attended.

Paul Redman attended the FURY Assembly as an observer, and reported a lively weekend during which Fury members were challenged to listen for the call into ministry. Paul hopes that some of our young people will be encouraged to attend next year. (He was the only Rep. from the Sussex West District!)

#### Ecumenical /World Church

Nancy Welch recommended the Swanick holiday 'Window on the World', the theme this year is 'Building Bridges' August 4th-10th. CWM has produced a leaflet introducing themselves, as many do not know what CWM is and does.

#### Lomas House

Province have started negotiations to purchase Lomas House for a sum not exceeding £25,000, to underwrite a further £25000 for making good the

building, and running the house. CWM and Synod officers will be meeting shortly for further discussions.

Open Discussion 'Lay Leadership' It became clear that there are different views about Lay Leadership in the local church, some thinking in terms of ministry including the Word and Sacraments, others in terms of Ordained Eldership, Lay Preachers, and a variety of callings covered by the TLS course. Training periods are often long and academic, and may not cover the 'real work' which only becomes apparent once a position is taken up. The Methodist Minister Rev Ian Cramb of Steyne Gardens was invited to describe the Methodist way of training. He pointed out that he had gained much insight as a young man accompanying an ordained minister in his work in the parish. For fuller notes on this discussion and other District matters please do ask me. 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.

*The date of the next meeting: March 15th. All church members are welcome to attend. Venue to be announced.*



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

1st Sunday in Lent

Thu 8 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Fri 9 2.00pm Kestro Club



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Family Worship  
Tearfund Austerity Lunch in the Church Hall - see page 1  
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tearfund Sunday

Tue 13 2.30pm Women's Guild 'The Singalongs'

Fri 16 2.00pm Kestro Club

FAIRTRADE  
FORTNIGHT  
5-18 March  
- Page 9 -



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.00pm CTG Service at English Martyrs RC

\*\* Last day for April Chronicle material



Mothering Sunday

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

\*\* British Summer Time begins.

Tue 27 2.30pm Women's Guild. 'First Checkpoint' Hazel Jones

Thu 29 7.30pm Church Meeting

Fri 30 9.15am CPAS Ministry Among Women Day. See page 9  
2.30pm





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

Thu 3 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Tue 10 2.30pm Women's Guild. Easter Service

Wed 11 7.30pm Rowland Singers ( see page 12 and April Chronicle )

Thu 12 Maundy Thursday  
7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Fri 13 10.30am Good Friday Service

#### Easter Day



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

**\*\* Last day for May Chronicle material**

Mon 16 Easter Bank Holiday



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

Tue 24 2.30pm Women's Guild. Apple Fashions

Thu 26 7.30pm Church Meeting



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

## Looking ahead . . . . .



13th - 19th May Christian Aid Week

13th May. 10.45am Team Service at St Columba's



# A Month in the Life of . . .

## Rev Norman Croft

Norman Croft is a non-stipendiary minister working with three other ministers within the Worthing Area Team.

**R**ather than write, about life of the 'Croft' household in Littlehampton I thought that it might be more interesting to write about life in the 'Croft' household in Wembley. These were the days when some might say that I was a true non-stipendiary Minister, working for the London Ambulance Service and managing a church at the same time.



Well, as a working paramedic I worked a three shift pattern 11-7 [nights] 3-11 [middles] and 7-3 [earlies]. Although Greenford where I was stationed, was a two car station we only worked a one night vehicle! Good news for someone not keen on nights!

This meant that I was able to lead 2 services each month at Watling URC and with a flexible meeting pattern able to chair all the elders and church meetings etc. Also shift work meant that I was able, some weeks, to be around the area during the day time. This enabled me not only to visit the day time activities of the church but also the local school, which was at the back of the church.

A relationship that even saw me as chair of the school governors for a time.

*Norman on his last day 'on the road' with the London Ambulance Service*

*(Continued on next page)*

*(Continued from previous page)*

How do you balance the two lives? Well it is surprisingly easy. Keep a diary! A flexible working pattern and a flexible church pattern meant that a living was earned and a church's needs met, more or less any how.

The down side of non stipendiary ministry is probably not being available when the crisis arises and the plus side is being in the work place as a minister. Many theological discussions have been held in the mess rooms of the London Ambulance Service. A very private, area and one in which strangers are not welcome.

The ambulance service became, to me just as much an area for mission and

ministry as the church in which I served. I conducted many funerals for serving and retired members of the organisation, a couple of weddings and on occasions led prayers at medal presentations and the like.

Would I go back to those days? Well not now - I value the more settled time table that I have.

Being able to get up in the morning and spend a regular amount of time at my desk preparing for the days ahead and not having to break the ice on the car at half past six in the mornings is a real bonus, as is being available when people need to talk or want a visit.

*Norman*

CPAS Ministry Among Women  
Worthing Area Fellowship

## Listening to God in Word and Song

Friday 30th March 2001  
9.15am - 2.30pm

Broadwater Baptist Church  
Dominion Road, Worthing

£5.00 for the day including drinks.

Please bring packed lunch.  
Enquiries and Programme available  
from Mrs Glen Dean

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 5<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> March.

For over 120,000 producers in poor countries throughout the world, Fairtrade has made a big difference. This would not have been possible without the support of shoppers like you - but the job's not over yet. There are still many farmers who want to sell to the Fairtrade market.

Look for the Fairtrade Mark on coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, honey, chocolate and bananas to make sure that third world farmers get a better deal for their produce.

## A new logo

As part of its move to develop a strong corporate identity and increase its impact among member churches, CWM has redesigned its logo.



The new logo keeps the same concepts as the previous one - the cross, the dove and the world - but in a modern, more-recognisable style.

The cross extends to the edges of the circle, symbolising Christ reaching out to the whole world. The dove is more recognisable than in the previous logo and gives a distinct sense of movement. It symbolises the Holy Spirit in action through the Church. The logo remains blue, the colour symbolising hope.

Please contact CWM if you would like a copy of the logo in electronic or other format for use in your publications.

## Christian Aid

Did you know that the long thin yellow bits in Bombay Mix are made from lentils? Well, according to Julie Millar, who has just returned from a trip to Bangladesh, the lentils are turned into a paste and forced through a mesh to produce the spaghetti like pieces which are then fried.

Julie Millar is Christian Aid's area co-ordinator for West Sussex and Surrey. She gave a colourful presentation about her recent trip to Bangladesh at the local Supporters Evening, which was held on Tuesday 6 February. Moira Nash from the Campaigns Team based in Waterloo was there as well to tell us about the new Trade Campaign which is soon to be launched. Everyone will be asked to sign a pledge and send it to their local MP. More about this later.

Christian Aid Week (Sun 13th - Sat 19th May) will soon be upon us and any

voluntary house to house collectors would be very welcome.

There is a new envelope design this year, much larger, with a big fold over flap that hides the name and address section (which has to be filled in if a taxpayer). Out of a grand total last year of twelve million pounds, Christian Aid were able to claim six-hundred and fifty thousand pounds back from the Revenue due to the new Tax Relief initiative.

- ❖ The annual Christian Aid service will be held at St Andrews, Tarring on Thursday 10th May 2001.
- ❖ Christian Aid Week is from Sunday 13th to Saturday 19th May 2001.

Campaigning outside Tesco and Co-op is on Saturday 19th May.

*Geoffrey Redman*



## We need true worship

**Korea's churches need to encourage truly Korean worship, says Sung MO Moon.**

Many Koreans have misunderstood the meaning of worship. They fail to see that worship is not the Gospel, but a response to the gospel, instead, they cling to old ways of worship introduced long ago by theologians from the West.

In most Korean churches today, the preacher leads worship and the congregation is passive. Most of the worship imitates Western, especially American, styles.

So there is a need for worship that is truly Korean. And a good place to find inspiration could be in the traditional performing arts.

Korean drama usually involves the public in the action on stage. The audience is not just made up of spectators, but people who sing and

dance together as they respond to the play.

Korean worship could work in a similar way, with the minister involving the congregation more in the service. For instance, new orders of service I have published attempt to do this. They include common prayers, special celebrations to remember key dates in Korean church history, hymns that use Korean music, and Korean symbols.

An example of a Korean symbol of worship is the cross in the shape of a Korean plough used during the 22nd general council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches in Seoul, Korea, in 1989. The plough means that the Church has to cultivate the world like an ox ploughs the field.

The pipe organ in the Andong church in Seoul is another example of a Korean worship symbol. A traditional decoration was engraved on the organ to give it a more Korean look.

Korean Christians are also involved in indigenous art. One person painted the birth of Christ in a Korean setting. Another one painted Jesus bearing the pain of the separation of Korea into North and South. And I'm currently studying Korean traditional colours to find ways of including them in worship and liturgy.

It's time the Korean church realised that its worship is too Western. Korean worship should reflect Korean responses to God.



*A Korean version of the birth of Christ - a clear break from the usual westernised Christian art*

*Church Life Profile*

On Sunday May 20th 2001 or thereabouts those over 15 years of age attending services at Goring URC will be asked to fill in a questionnaire form asking about their participation in the life of the church, and their personal and church background. The answers will be completely confidential. No one will be asked to put their name on the form. There will be a separate form for ministers/leaders and a special sheet for under 15s. We have decided to take part in this nationwide survey which will involve more than a quarter of a million church attenders. This Church Life Profile, as it is called, is being planned by Churches Information for Mission. CIM is owned and supported by most of the major churches and Christian agencies in England. The survey is actually part of an international exercise, which will take place at the same time in Australia,

New Zealand and the USA. It also coincides with the UK National Census which for the first time will include a question about religious affiliation. When the results of all these surveys are out they should provide some interesting comparisons.

What will Goring URC get



out of it? We will receive (either in print or in downloadable form from a website by using a secure password) a report summarising the information collected (with suggestions about how to interpret it) and giving an indication of the vitality of the church in the areas of faith development, attracting new members and involvement in the community. It will also

show us how we compare with other similar churches. This will offer us material for reflection, enabling us to build on our strengths and to address our weaknesses and so help us to shape the life of the church for the years to come. Later there will be other material which will help us to address specific issues. In other words, this is not just an exercise in collecting statistics. It is a tool for mission, so it will be vital for us all to play our part willingly. The more forms that are filled in, the more accurate will be the final picture we receive. That is why your voice, your form will count.

So when you are asked to fill in a Profile form, remember that this is not just another survey - taking part is the first step in a process which could help to shape the life of this church for years to come.

### Rowland Singers Easter Concert



The Rowland Singers are giving their Easter Concert in the Church on Wednesday 11th April at 7.30pm. The works to be performed will be Requiem by Faure and Gounod Messe Solennelle. Further details in the April Chronicle.

*Sheila Gooderham*

### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Emmanuel (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The April CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 1st April. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or computer disk) to the Editor by Sunday 18th March. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material yourself.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

E-Mail: [thechronicle@btinternet.com](mailto:thechronicle@btinternet.com)

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

Proof Reading: Ron Jordan

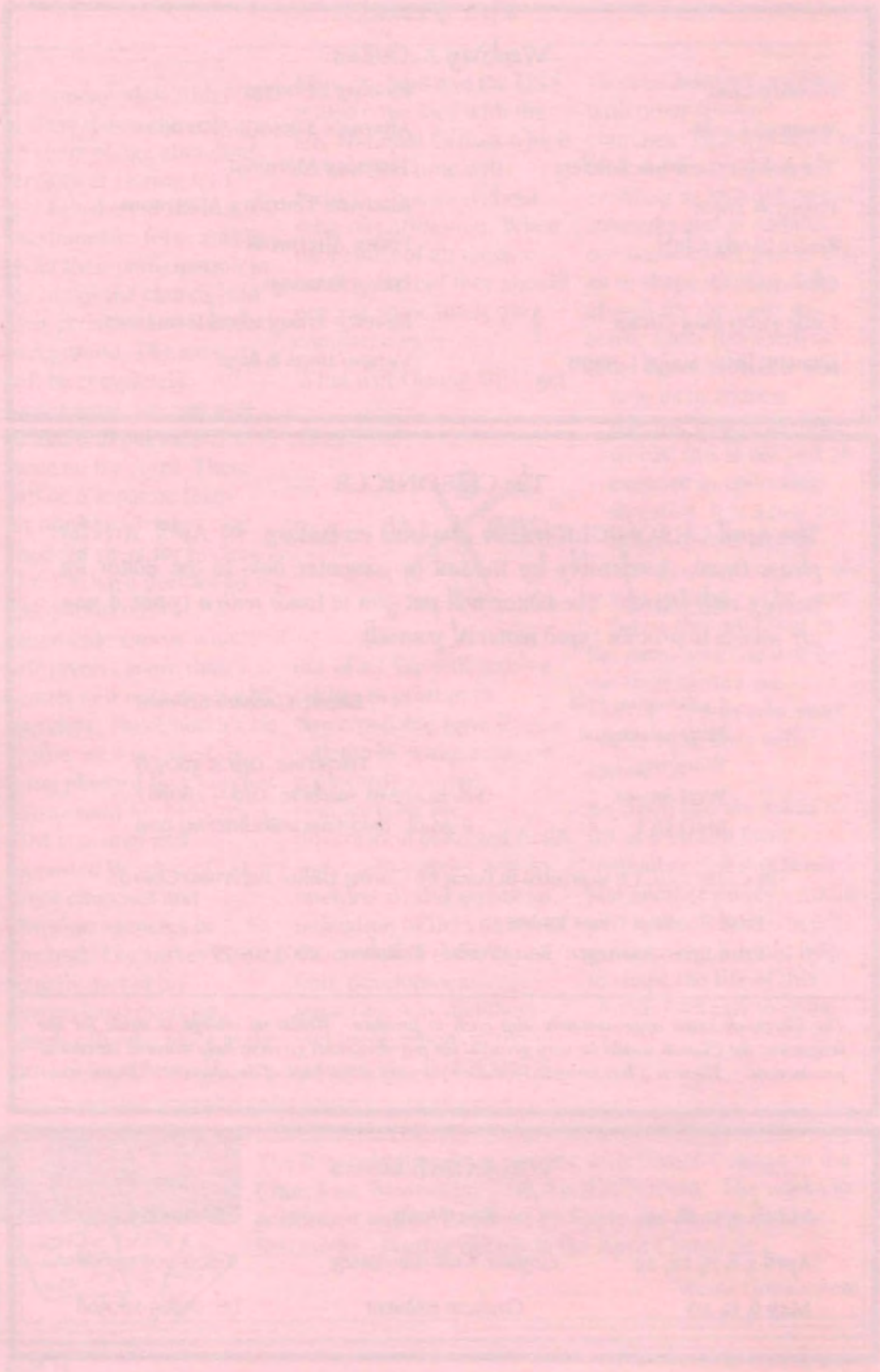
Print Room Manager: Ken Woods: Telephone 01903 505177

*The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

March 4, 11, 18, 25	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Gwynor Anderson-Easey	Tel: 01903 539868
May 6, 13, 20	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568







# The CHRONICLE

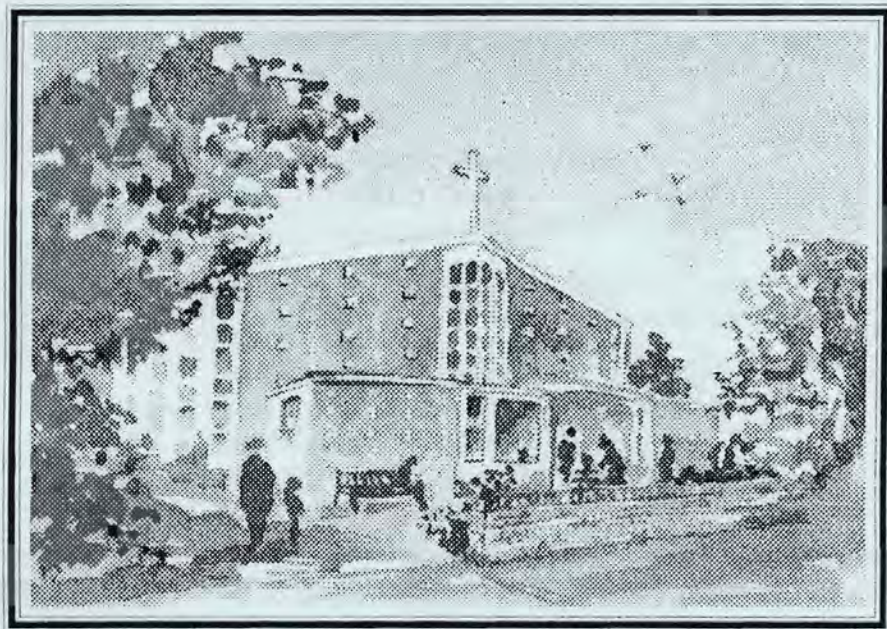
April 2001

---

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

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

---



## *In this issue:*

- *Church Working Party*
- *Church Finances Newsletter*
- *District & Synod Reports*
- *A month in the life of Simon Franklin*
- *Ruth's Chat and Mission pages*

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

E-Mail: [gurc@worthingchurch.co.uk](mailto:gurc@worthingchurch.co.uk)

Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

- Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - *Monday rest day*  
 Rev Norman Croft (Part time) - Telephone 01903 715813 - *Wednesday rest day*  
 Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) - Telephone 01903 713 506 - *Monday rest day*  
 Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - *Friday rest day*

*Church Secretary:* Mrs 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 Representative for Goring:* Mrs Jane Bond

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

Telephone: 01903 244157

*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

- 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.

---



---

# The CHRONICLE

No. 553

April 2001

---

## Contents:

2 from The Manse .... Rev Margaret Ashby

### Our Church -

3 Working Party Week

4 Church Finances Newsletter

### Worthing Area & District

6 Worthing Area Team Ministry

7 Christians Together in Goring

7 Churches in the Park

8 Sussex West District Meeting

### Southern Province

10 Provincial Weekend

14 Southern Synod Meeting

11-12 for your Diary ...



18 A month in the life of.... Rev Simon Franklin

### World Church & Mission

21 Ruth's Chat - news from Ruth's mission field

24 Christian Aid

25 International Bible Reading association

26 Alpha Evangelism Course for Television

26 President's Christian faith saved him





*from The Manse ... Rev Margaret Ashby*

---

Dear Friends

Many of you will be reading this letter on or near Passion Sunday, the Sunday before Palm Sunday. At this time we remember the journey of Jesus to Jerusalem and his triumphal entry into that city, to be followed only a few days later by the horrors and torture of arrest, trial and crucifixion. Yet out of that appalling and seemingly final event almighty God brought the victory of good over evil and life over death.

We can only read and imagine, in humility and awe, of the last days before Jesus' death and then we come to Easter Day in an equally humble way but also with deep thankfulness and love. When we remember that the God who made the universe came to earth in the Person of Jesus Christ and showed us what loving to the uttermost really means we are lost in wonder, love and praise, as the old hymn puts it. What does this mean for us, now, though? First it shows us that God is a God of power and might. Second, we realize that however black things may look, however difficult our lives might have become, God is greater than anything that can ever happen to us, and this great and powerful God loves us and will not let us fall. God does bring good out of evil and life out of death.

As we look around us at the riot of daffodils everywhere we recall that they have been waterlogged for much of the winter and, at intervals, have also coped with temperatures well below freezing. We wondered if they would ever survive sometimes. Now the daffodils are bursting with colour and cheerfulness despite the winter. We could say that they are signs of the way things work in God's world, a little signpost to the way things are in the Kingdom of God.

We look around us at events going on in our country and others at the moment, and we see appalling suffering and wonder why God allows it. Looking at Good Friday, though, we begin to see that God bringing good out of evil is all bound up with Jesus suffering and loving to the uttermost. We begin to see that Easter and the way that God has brought good out of evil is because of Good Friday and the dereliction and suffering of Jesus as he loved to the uttermost.

Even when life is seemingly all darkness for us we remember that out of great suffering God brought almost unbelievable goodness. So we bring our farmers to God in prayer as we also bring victims of flooding and the results of changes in the climate, praying that they may all have the strength to cope and that God will bring good things even out of disaster. This is what Good Friday and Easter are all about. Remember the daffodils, apparently dead and buried yet now blazing with colour and life. May we too blaze with life in our little corner of God's earth.

With love and blessings to you all.

*Margaret*



## Handbook Amendments

**Death**

Mr Patrick Tye

On 11th March 2001

We give thanks for the life and Christian witness of Pat. and pray for the peace in the hearts of his family and friends.

## Quiz Night

Many of you will know that it was our intention to have a Quiz Night on Saturday 19 May. As St Columba's Church are holding a similar event the following week, I think it would be as well to defer ours until a later date. I am very sorry about this but believe it would be better not to have two quiz nights in such a quick succession.

Please amend your diaries and watch this space!!

*Doreen Norris*

## Working Party Week

Saturday 28 April - Saturday 5 May

**This Spring, the Working Party Day and Working Party Week are to be incorporated. Volunteers are needed for various jobs including:-**

Church Buildings

1. Repaint the outside of the Harris Room, Kitchen and East/West Halls (excluding the windows and main door in East Hall which are due for replacement). Touch up metal window frames of Print Room and Church Hall where rust is showing through paintwork. NOTE: Barge boards to East/West Halls are due to be covered with UPVC sheeting. Paint doors at front of Church with stain donated by Dolbear Windows. VESTIBULE - clean cupboards.

2. Making good decorations in Halls and Passageways, Gents Cloakrooms. Stain/polish internal doors of vestibule.

3. Garden Maintenance. Weeding, pruning shrubs and bushes, hedge cutting.

4. Clean driveway in front of garage. Remove any bottles, cans and wrappers

from grounds. Graffiti removal. Refix garden seat at front of Church (seat is in Gents Cloakroom). Repaint markings on driveway. Clean Notice Board. Repair fence on West boundary if work not already carried out. Window locks. Rusty hooks.

5. Paint cast iron rainwater pipes over flat roofs of choir vestry and Minister's vestry. (Black Hammerite Paint). Shingle base on North West corner of West Hall should be removed.

The Manse

Remove wrought iron gates to driveway. Remove 3 iron gate posts set in concrete. The iron gate post on line of boundary adjoining 15, Drummond Rd should remain as removal might disturb the neighbour's fence. Make good concrete.

*All offers of help will be much appreciated. Please, contact any member of the House and Fabric Group.*

*Colin Nodes*

## Church Finances Newsletter

Spring 2001

### Introduction

The Finance Group have asked me to write to you about the Church finances – but where to start?

As you will understand there are many facets to this subject, and too many to cover in one fell swoop. So I hope to present you with a regular “newsletter”, perhaps quarterly, covering different topics and keeping you informed of our financial position. Please let me know what topics you would like me to cover.

### The 2001 Budget

At the November Church Meeting I presented the budget (see right). I explained that the financial demands facing the Church in the next few years are such that I could not recommend budgeting for a deficit as has been the case in recent years. To do so would result in the dwindling away of our reserves leading to likely cash flow difficulties.

I also explained the demands, which are likely to arise, in respect of Organ Repairs and the Quinquennial Survey. Church Meeting had no hesitation in accepting the budget. I will let you know more about the financial implications of these as matters become clear.

### Your Response

The key to our continuing financial stability is your response to the need to increase our offertory.

The budget recommends that we increase our giving by £7.826 to £43.826.

That seems like a lot at first glance, but it equates to:

- increasing your giving by around 29%, or
- £1.35 per week extra per person

If we all increase our weekly giving by at least £1.35, or 29% if that is greater, we will easily meet our budget commitment.

But these are only financial targets, based on simple arithmetic. Deciding on the level of our giving is so much more.

- It must be done prayerfully.
- What is God asking you to give?
- What is your response to what he has done and is doing for you?
- Is He asking you to give more than the target figures?
- Is He asking you to give less?
- Do you practice tithing?
- Should you consider tithing?
- When did you last review your giving?

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

<b>BUDGET PROPOSAL 2001</b>					
<b><u>Receipts:</u></b>			<b><u>Payments:</u></b>		
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>		<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>
Offertory	£36,000	£43,826	Ministry	£32,680	£33,376
Rents	£4,000	£4,500	Pulpit Supply	£500	£500
Interest	£500	£500	Minister/Manse	£3,500	£5,000
Tax refund	£5,600	£5,600	Cleaning	£1,600	£1,700
Donations	£1,000	£1,000	Utilities	£2,100	£2,100
Deficit	£6,030		Insurance	£1,500	£1,500
			Maintenance	£4,000	£4,000
			Church Music	£600	£600
			Junior Church	£500	£500
			Printing	£1,000	£1,000
			Telephone	£250	£250
			Sundries	£1,000	£1,000
			Mission	£2,000	£2,000
			10% Fund	£1,900	£1,900
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>£53,130</b>	<b>£55,426</b>		<b>£53,130</b>	<b>£55,426</b>

I pray that each of you will come before the Lord in prayer on this subject and seek His will. For the committee's part we trust that the Lord will provide, according to our needs. He may decide that we are asking too much – or not enough!

(Continued on page 20)

## Worthing Area Team Ministry

It is now two months since Andrew joined our Team and, as I am sure you are all appreciating, we are benefiting from having our Team Ministers in the pulpit more often, and fewer visiting preachers on Sundays. Initially, Andrew will spend more time with Goring and St Andrew's in order to get to know us quickly, and will attend our Elders' and Church Meetings.

During the February half-term, a very successful and happy FUN day was held at Goring for 40 children from the four churches, and this will be repeated in October at St Andrew's.

Also in February, the Team Elders held a Study Day in Littlehampton under the direction of Simon Franklin, which was much appreciated. These days foster understanding between the churches.

By the time this is published, we will have elected a new Lay Person to represent Goring in the Team as I will have completed 3 years service.

The next occasion in which we can celebrate and worship together will be at our annual Team service, held this year at St Columba's on Sunday-13th May at 10.45am. (There will be no morning service at Goring). At this service our new Lay Person will be commissioned. These are most inspiring services as we share in wider fellowship and pray together for God's guidance for the Team.

Jane Bond

## Minister's Days Off

Please note the Ministers' days off are as follows:-

Monday -	Simon Franklin
Wednesday -	Norman Croft
Friday -	Margaret Ashby and Andrew Sellwood

With a Team ministry there will always be a minister available to members, but they do appreciate calls during socially acceptable hours, and respect for their days off.

## Web Site

If you have a computer and have access to the internet, you may like to know that you can visit the 'Worthing Area Team Ministry' web site at [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

[www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)





## Welcome to Your New Home

The Christians Together in Goring (CTG) Group have produced a leaflet designed to welcome those moving into a new home in Goring. The leaflet gives details of the location, the clergy and the times of Services for the eight churches in the Goring area.

It is hoped that members of churches will deliver leaflets to new residents' homes when, or shortly after, they arrive in the Goring area. Copies of the leaflets are available on the table at the rear of the Church.

*Eric Bond*

## Churches In The Park 2001

As part of the Sea Front Fayre the Millennium Link Group are having another "Churches In The Park" in Steyne Gardens on Saturday 28th July.

Those who went last year will remember what a wonderful occasion it was, and I would like to think that we could have more participation from the three local URC churches.

With this in mind there is to be an evening of Praise & Prayer at Sion School Hall on Saturday 12th May at 7.45pm to tell everyone about it and stir up lots of enthusiasm.

Please try to come and see what you can do not only to help but, to spread the word that to be a Christian is such a joyous thing - It's tell the town !!!

Phone me on Worthing 503783 for more details.

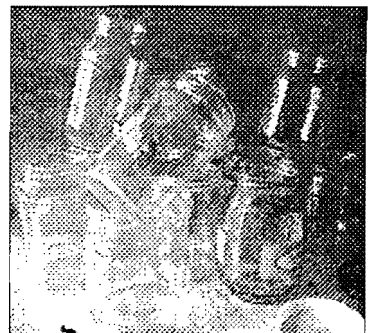
*Doreen Norris*

## Marmalade

Many thanks to all of you who have kept me supplied with jam jars. At the moment we have more than enough and I will ask for more when I need them.

Don't forget I sell marmalade throughout the year both orange and lemon, still at the same price with half of the proceeds going to church funds.

*Sheila Gooderham*



## Sussex West District Meeting

The meeting, which was opened with devotions from Luke's Gospel, a Charles Wesley hymn and prayers led by the Minister of Christ Church, was attended by 35 people members of and visitors to council. We received apologies from Rev David Helyar who is resting, and Mrs Christine Meekison who is suffering with reduced vision.

The District Secretary introduced Mr. Ian Chalmers. President elect. and thanked Rev Marie Roe for her three years of office as President elect. President and past President. Mr. Chalmers addressed the meeting as a member of a group researching the best way to improve car parking at Worthing and Southlands Hospitals. He invited Council to come to him with any helpful suggestions.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

Matters Arising: Lomas House: the negotiations are proceeding.

### Executive Council Report

Notice was given that the Women's District Panel would be meeting at Goring URC on March 28th. The Panel's chairman, Rev Jenny Martin, had sent an appeal to all District Reps. to encourage more women from the local churches to attend the meeting, since unless there is more support the Panel and the women's work in the District would cease to

function. In particular a new secretary needs to be found. We are asked to sustain this matter by our prayers.

All Ministers and Church Secretaries have received a document 'Church appointments and Termed Contracts' from the General Secretary of the URC. The document was not discussed.

Rev Janet Sowerbutts is researching aspects of the NHS, following poor follow up treatment which she received.

An Elders day had been planned for April, but after discussion it was decided that the subject matter 'Deployment and Finance' may be circulated in a more appropriate way.

Rev David Helyar retires this year, and a thanksgiving for all that he has done within the Province during the last 14 years is to be held on July 28th, at Worth Abbey. Attendance, (strictly by coach travel only), is to be limited by ticket. Anyone wishing to attend should let their District Rep. know, further details will become available in due course.

The Induction of Rev Nigel Uden, the new Moderator will take place on Saturday 15th September at Sanderstead URC.

### Finance & Property

Council agreed to support an application by Littlehampton United for urgent repairs to the Manse which in part belongs to the Methodists. Mr. Wearing assured the meeting that the financial position would be resolved with the

*(Continued on page 9)*

15<sup>th</sup> March 2001 Christ Church Chichester*(Continued from page 8)*

Methodists later, but the work is pressing.

Council also agreed to support an application from Hove Central for a loan of £35,000. This is to assist with a bill of £70,000 towards refurbishing the Sanctuary.

Mr Wearing also spoke about the national deficit to the M&M fund, and is waiting further figures, but 'guesstimates' an increase of 5% on current levels of giving. Church meetings will be updated by August when some decisions will have to be made.

Pastoral Care Committee

Pastoral Care reports from St Ninian's and Pulborough will come to next meeting.

Bosham fellowship is still supported by Ron Scriven, and the plans for planting a Baptist fellowship within the Bosham church are on hold for a year. District is looking for someone to work alongside Ron for this year. We are asked to continue in prayer for the fellowship at Bosham.

The application to authorise Mr Simon Richards to preside at Holy Communion at Goring URC was turned down in view of the fact that Mr. Richards is not a member of the United Reformed Church. It was emphasised that this is in no way a reflection upon Mr. Richards.

The meeting was asked for a volunteer to contact widowed spouses who may fall

outside the pastoral care of the church, in order that none should be overlooked. This is now in hand.

Youth & Children's work

The meeting was reminded of events fixed for the year: Crossfire, a weekend away for 14-25 yr. olds, Coldwaltham Camp in July and the leaders' day on 24th November at Sompting URC. Howard Nurden is circulating a news letter.

Evangelism

No report.

World church & Mission

Rev Barry Scopes and his wife have recently returned from India. They brought gifts of shawls home with them, one of which they gave to Nancy Welch who 'modelled' it for us to see! Very beautiful. Mr & Mrs Scopes are available to attend meetings in the local churches to show their slides and give a presentation about the work with which they are associated in India. There is an especial need for rebuilding and improving the hospital. (See more about India in the Synod report on page 16)

The Moderators are planning to link with the Ukraine, a country often visited by Janet Davison, (District Property Advisor).

Jean West - Church & Society, announced the Christian Aid Trade for Life event at Brighthelm, 31st March, and introduced literature from the Life & Witness department on the subject of Violence against Women. She urged us

*(Continued on page 11)*

## PROVINCIAL WEEKEND

16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> February 2001 - Herne Bay Court

Report by Denise Elliott

**T**his year Carol Webber, Malcolm, Sue, Paul, Simon, Mark, and James Nicholls and I attended this weekend. We arrived in time for supper despite being delayed on the motorway.

After supper we unpacked and went to an introductory session. The aim of the weekend was 'To encourage people to think about how their Christian community can relate to children and young people. To enable people to return to their churches with ideas, questions and perhaps some inspiration for action.' The theme leaders were Howard Nurden ( Synod Youth and Children's Work Training Officer) and Margaret Collins (a non-stipendiary minister who works with children in South East London District).

The children also had their own activities during the weekend which ran alongside the sessions for the adults. These were a great success and 'our boys' really enjoyed them.

Morning and evening prayers were all different in style. We were warned that we may not like all the styles of the worship/ prayer times but that was OK as at least we were thinking about it. On Friday evening we had 'Iona-style' prayers, followed by Traditional-style, Youth-style ( using a Lap Top PC and LCD projector to display music and images), and Child-friendly on Saturday and Sunday.

There were 6 sessions throughout the weekend with titles based on a train theme

- 1. Mind the gap:** an introductory session to discuss the gap between children / young people and the church.
- 2. This train will divide in 20minutes:** looking at children and their role in the church.
- 3. Move right down inside the carriage please:** how do we encourage young people to become more involved in the life of our church
- 4. Please stand behind the yellow line:** how do we reach out to children ?
- 5. Stand clear of the doors:** reaching out to young people
- 6. Normal service will be resumed?:** will we continue as we always have or will we start to make changes ?

During the weekend we looked at how much (or little ) we knew about children and young people's culture today, their needs and how we could meet these needs. The church needs to be a place where children and young people feel welcomed and included in all its activities.

How do we reach out to children and young people ? Ideas such as mid-week or after-school activities, holiday clubs, youth clubs, regular events such as Discos and many other things will encourage young people on to our



premises. We should be prepared to work together with other local churches to support each other and provide for the young people in our area.

We need to be culturally sensitive and relevant to be able to reach young people today. They are influenced by so many things- TV and videos, computer games, and the internet, music, hero worship, drugs, relationships, and sex, appearances, the search for identity, divided homes, the pressure to do well at school and find the right job, who to believe, a multi-faith society..

Consider the following allegory on the way we react to young people. Imagine a sledge full of young people coming down a mountainside. They are heading towards a deep ravine. How will we stop the sledge? If we stand directly in the path of the sledge there will be a great

crash and both we and the young people will end up getting hurt. It would be better to come alongside the sledge and gently nudge it little by little away from the dangerous path it is on.

We need the humility to: - recognise that we're all prisoners in our own culture - understand and appreciate the culture to which we go - begin where people are and not where we'd like them to be - trust the Holy Spirit without whom our message is futile - follow Christ in renouncing and sacrificing things from our background - identify with people who are different.

It was the last Provincial Weekend for the time being as lower numbers over the past two years mean it is no longer financially viable.

-- o O o --

### Sussex West District Report continued from page 9

to be mindful of vulnerable people who may be associated with our churches and local communities.

#### President's Item

Rev Ken Lynch (President) reminded the Council of its remit, and asked those present to evaluate the work of Sussex West District Council, by reference to the outline of it's responsibilities in the Manual. He had prepared papers with each responsibility printed out and they were displayed at the back of the church. Each person present was asked to indicate how well they thought Sussex West fulfilled these responsibilities, by placing a sticky dot on a line 0 (poor) — 10 (well). The results of this survey next time! The meeting closed at 9.30 pm

If you would like to see fuller notes and District papers please do ask me.....and do please consider whether you would like to become the District Rep. for Goring. District meets approximately 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.*

*The next meeting will be held in June. All church members are welcome to attend. Venue to be announced.*

## Synod Meeting at Eastbourne

**Synod Meeting held at St Andrew's Church Eastbourne on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

**Opening worship was conducted by Rev Michael Davies, Interim Moderator for St Andrew's URC.**

**Synod was attended by 325 members and 85 retired ministers. There were 31 apologies for absence.**

Rev Janet Sowerbutts led the meeting in a stimulating and thought provoking **Bible Study** on 'The Holiness of God' The text was Ezekial 36 v 22-32.

### Synod Roll & Apologies

Rev David Helyar was not well enough to be present, and Mrs Christine Meekison, who was present, has been afflicted by an eye complaint. She thanked all who have helped her in her work in recent months.

### Notices

Several items of silver were on display, reclaimed from closed churches. Members were invited to select something that would be of value and use in the local church.

### MISSION COUNCIL REPORT

The copyright of the TLS programme has been successfully negotiated for continued use by the URC.

It has been agreed that a Committee for Racial Justice be established as a Standing Committee of the Assembly.

Council also agreed the following: the nomination of Revd Nigel Uden to succeed Revd David Helyar as Moderator of the Southern Synod; Revd Peter Noble as Moderator of the Synod of Wales; the appointment of

Revd Dr. Stephen Orchard as Principal of Westminster College, Cambridge for six years.

It was emphasized that all resources of the church at National, Synod and District level are in place to support the work in the local church.

All local churches are encouraged to support the Jubilee Campaign Debt Network (UK), formerly coordinated by Jubilee 2000.

### PROVINCIAL COUNCIL REPORT

**Lomas House:** November 2000. Special Synod. Just over one-third of Synod members attended. Following considerable debate it was agreed that a two-thirds majority of those present and voting would be required to secure Synod's agreement to begin formal negotiations with CWM regarding the Southern Province's possible takeover of Lomas House - to care for the residents and as a possible venue for Retreat/ Training. The two-thirds majority was gained by one vote.

### Patterns of Deployment-an update

1. It has been encouraging to note the distinct change in mood from a year ago. Districts and local churches have tackled the deployment exercise with an increased sense of positive purpose, accepting it as a challenge rather than as a grim reality which must be accepted with resignation and regret.

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2001

2. All seven Districts have worked hard and in diverse ways with the target figures for stipendiary ministry, exercising imagination and resourcefulness. The present indication is that we are very close to reaching the target figures for each District and for the Synod as a whole.

3. The change in mood appears to have been occasioned by a move from concentrating merely on the number of ministers to the way in which we need to employ the ministry of the whole people of God in service and mission. The Holy Spirit is prompting us to explore different ways in which stipendiary ministers need to exercise their calling and gifts, and at fuller ways in which elders, lay preachers, local church leaders and members may all share in ministry. Only then can we employ all our resources as effectively as possible in the service of Christ. We encourage Districts and local churches to continue this exploration and

development, using the skills of our Trainers and D.E.M.E.'s (District Evangelism & Mission Enablers) to assist and enable us as we continue moving forward.

4. The working group will meet again in the spring or summer of 2002 to review the situation. Meanwhile, we are grateful to God for the combined reality of sacrifice and vision which has brought us to this point.

#### **Facilities for Disabled**

**People:** A booklet "Through the Roof" has been sent to every church in the Province so that provision of suitable facilities can be made before legislation comes into force in 2004.

#### **News of Churches:**

- a. Synod agreed that St Paul's Cray URC and Swanley URC be transferred from South East London District to Medway District.
- b. Dover, High Street URC to be known henceforth as St Columba URC, Dover.
- c. The closure of Isle of Grain URC and Dartford,

West Hill URC was noted by Synod to be forwarded to General Assembly.

#### **Ghanaian Congregation at Christ Church and Upton Chapel, Kennington:**

Two observers from this congregation attended Synod.

#### **Resource Sharing:**

The Finance & Property Admin. Committee and Provincial Council agreed that our contribution to Resource Sharing would continue to be 10% for 2001.

**Canon of Honour** The Moderator, Revd David Helyar, is to be appointed an Ecumenical Canon of Honour by the Diocese of Rochester. A singular honour in recognition of his contribution to ecumenism.

**The Main theme** of the day was Ecumenism, and Synod was addressed by The Revd Prebendary Dr. Paul Avis, General Secretary of The Council for Christian Unity of The Church of England. He gave an overview of the

*(Continued on page 16)*

For your Diary in 2001...



<b>1</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Worship

Thu	5	From 9.30am	Day of Prayer
		7.30pm	Elders' Meeting

---

**Palm Sunday**


---

<b>8</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Family Worship
	6.00pm	Evening Worship

Tue	10	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Easter Service
-----	----	--------	-------------------------------

Wed	11	7.30pm	Rowland Singers ( see page 25 )
-----	----	--------	---------------------------------

Thu	12	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
-----	----	--------	--------------------------------

Fri	13	10.30am	Good Friday Service
-----	----	---------	---------------------

Sat	14	2.00pm	Passion Play
-----	----	--------	--------------

---

**Easter Day**


---

**\*\* Last day for May Chronicle material**

<b>15</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Mon	16		Easter Bank Holiday
-----	----	--	---------------------

<b>22</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.00pm	Evening Worship 'Team Praise'

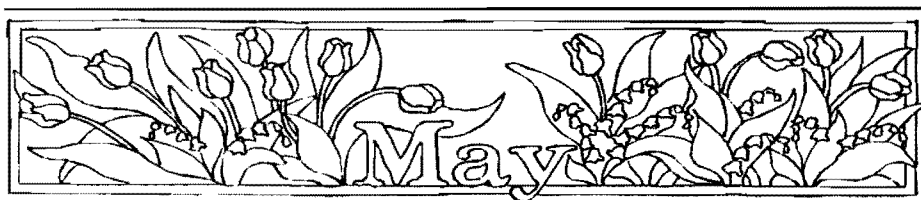
Tue	24	2.30pm	Women's Guild. Apple Fashions
-----	----	--------	-------------------------------

Thu	26	7.30pm	Church Meeting
-----	----	--------	----------------

Sat	28	10.00am	NSPCC Coffee Morning
			Church Working Party 28 April-5 May      See page 3

<b>29</b>	8.00am	Early Morning Holy Communion
	10.30am	Morning Worship
	6.00pm	Evening Worship





Thu 3 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Mon 7 May Day Bank Holiday

Tue 8 2.30pm Women's Guild AGM

Thu 10 7.30pm Elders' Meeting  
7.30pm CTW: Christian Aid Service at St Andrew's C of E Tarring

Sat 12 7.45pm Praise Evening for Churches in the Park at Sion Convent



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Worthing Area Team Service at St Columba's  
6.00pm CTG Service at St Mary's

Christian Aid Week  
13-19 May

### Church Life Profile Day



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

Tue 22 2.30pm Women's Guild Outing



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

Mon 28 Spring Bank Holiday

Thu 31 7.30pm Church Meeting

## Looking ahead . . . . .



7th June Healing Ministry day at Burrswood  
10th June Junior Church Anniversary  
23rd June Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning



*(Continued from page 13)*

history of the progress of unity and spoke eloquently, with insight and sensitivity about where we are today and the vision for the future. Following his discourse we were introduced to the ecumenical visitors to Synod, representing the churches in Eastbourne.

After lunch new ministers, newly retired ministers, students, staff and officers were introduced and welcomed to Synod, including our newly inducted minister to the Worthing Area Team, Rev Andrew Sellwood.

**The second session** on the theme of Ecumenism was staged as 'Question Time'. A panel of ecumenical representatives, chaired by Rev Janet Sowerbutts responded to a wide range of questions prepared by members of Synod

**Racial Justice.** Rev Norman Setchell whose work is with asylum seekers in Dover, showed us pictures both explaining his work and describing some of the backgrounds from which people flee. His guest, a former asylum seeker, spoke dramatically of how he had escaped certain death by flying out to England 20 years ago, and the anxious 6 months which had passed before he could bring his wife and three small children to join him. Norman reminded us that we have not just a responsibility for such people but an obligation.

Provincial Council reports that representation for Racial Justice is very poor within the synod and Districts are asked to make it an important part of their Agenda.

**Presentation Rayalaseema.** Since Bishop Frderick's visit to Synod in October, Revds Betty and Barry Scopes have revisited and are recently returned from India. They showed Synod their slides and gave an account of their visit. Rayalaseema means 'Place of Stones' and the pictures showed the place to be full of them! It was a full account and ended with an offer to visit any meeting in any local church to share the story. Also a plea for continued prayer for the people of Rayalaseema. The prayer sheet is available from your Synod Rep. Please see also Sussex West Reports (pages 8&9). Provincial Council has agreed to set up a "Rayalaseema Fund" for donations from Synod and churches, and hopes to send a group from Southern Province to visit Rayalaseema in January 2002, with a return visit from Rayalaseema organised for October 2002. A prayer leaflet covering the many needs of Rayalseema is available. If you would like a copy please ask your Synod Rep.

.....

This is a detailed report, but given in this way in order that more news and comment can be shared.

Visitors are always welcome to attend Synod, and if you would like to become the next Synod Rep for Goring, please let me know!

*Hilary Redman*

## Notice Board

Southern Synod Training Bulletin 2001 offers information and opportunities including:-

**ELDERS TRAINING**.....A package available for groups of Elders, covering many topics, including Team Building, Prayer & Spirituality, Pastoral Care, Handling Change and many more.

**The Christ We Share Course**... 7 sessions exploring images of Christ from around the world. Available to run in the local church.

**E-NET DAYS**.....June and November for anyone who has a heart for mission.

**VISION WORKSHOPS**..... Working with a DEME (District Evangelism & Mission Enabler) to fulfil dreams and visions.

**COMPUTER TRAINING**.....at Vineswood House Rochester. Basic training £5.00 per session. 11 am - 1 pm 26th April and 22nd September.

**CHURCH SECRETARIES**...A day for all secretaries within a District.

**KALEIDOSCOPE/SPECTRUM COURSE**... for those working with children/young people. Usually an ecumenical training course within the locality.

**"MIND THE GAP"**.... A one day seminar for church leaders and anyone or preparing for outreach responsibility. 22nd June at Westminster Chapel, or 23rd June at Wood Green Christian Centre.

**WINDOW ON THE WORLD 4 - 10 August 2001**....

"Building Bridges of Hope" A holiday conference for all ages and interests at the Hayes Centre, Swanwick. Relax, learn, worship, play, think, grow and mix with Christians from around the world.

**RESOURCES DAY**..... 19th June 11 am - 2 pm at Reigate Park URC.

For more details of any of the above notices please contact the church secretary.

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET THIS DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!!**

The NSPCC SPRING FAIR to be held on Saturday 28th April 10 am-12 noon at Goring URC. Entrance 25p...Refreshments 50p...

Stalls of cakes books and gifts.

# A Month in the Life of ...

## Rev Simon Franklin

### A Minister - Who me?

That's a question I continually ask myself and I still have to pinch myself each time our Lord answers positively - Yes you.

I was born and brought up in the East End of London and though I had the good fortune of being born into a Christian family I have to own up to doing the things that would be expected from a cockney tear away. I even went as far as making a record, though not the kind that you would want to listen to on your stereo. There was only one copy and the Metropolitan Police kept a tight hold of it.



*Simon in his Study at his Littlehampton Manse.*

On leaving school I became a Civil Servant, working for the nasty end of the Inland Revenue as a Tax Collector. I can assure you that any comparisons to Zaccheus or Matthew were exhausted long ago. After some seventeen years a change in direction was called for and I went to work for a small printers that was run by a Christian friend and his family. Working up from the ground or factory floor I eventually made my way to the heady heights of a directorship and really began to think that that was it for evermore. After all things were going well and the future looked secure. However God had other plans in store.

For several years I'd felt a distinct call from God toward Ministry, a call that perhaps through cowardice or perhaps a lack of faith I had put to one side. By now I was a very active local preacher and a serving Elder in the Church. Our local District Council had asked me to take an active 'lay leadership' role at a small fellowship within the District. My wife Dianne and I had been blessed with two children (one of each). I had a comfortable home, a mortgage, a company car, two children and a budget to support. How could I possibly consider being a Minister?



Yet one by one each obstacle or barrier that I put in the way was knocked down. Sadly recession took its toll, the printers closed and I was to experience redundancy twice more over the following months. Of course the company car bit the dust and sadly even the budgie was called to a higher perch. Eventually even the struggle of keeping our own house became too much and we moved into rented accommodation. In worldly terms things had gone pear shaped yet spiritually things could not have been better and after much prayer and thought, with much trepidation I applied for Ministerial training. I shall never forget my interview with our then Provincial Moderator. "Do you know Simon I've waited ten years for you to come and speak to me" he said.

After rigorous assessment to my amazement I was accepted for training. A good friend of mine was not at all surprised. "Simon" she said with a confidence and tone that only good friends can adopt "at last you've opened your ears and listened to God. Be sure to listen every single moment of every single day for he will never let you down." She was so right the following years of training and study were certainly a challenge but God never let us down and all our needs were met over and over again, as indeed they have been since my Ordination in 1997.

I'm convinced that God calls those who have experience of life, both good and bad. In my personal experience he has brought me through many ups and downs ranging from redundancy, the loss of our home, family illness and bereavement, to the joy of parenthood and Christian marriage. At times my faith has been surely tried and tested but the Lord has never once failed me. He's been patient with me when I've been slow on the uptake and on more than one occasion he's picked up the pieces, lead the way and even carried me along.

Now he's brought me to this corner of his kingdom and I look forward to celebrating the coming Easter with new friends in Littlehampton and the Worthing Area Team.

God knew what he wanted of and from me. He cleared away the obstacles and excuses that I put in the way. May he do the same for you as he calls you to your particular ministry in his name.

In Christian love - Simon

---

Incidentally the aforementioned demised budgie has recently been replaced by a small kitten called Smudge.

Please feel free to call and say hello if your passing.

**Church Finances Newsletter** *(Continued from page 5)***How to respond**

In addition to considering how much to increase your giving by, can I urge you to consider how you give? I would urge you to consider the following options:

**Payroll Giving**

If you are in employment and your employer operates the Payroll Giving Scheme the Government will add a further 10% to your giving (plus any relevant tax relief) until April 2003 – please see me for more details

**Gift Aid**

If you suffer tax, even on Bank or Building Society Accounts, you can increase the value of your giving by 28% by simply signing a form. Please see me for more details – why let the Taxman have your money when the Lord can put it to better use.

**Standing Order**

Ensures that your giving happens regularly – you don't miss any weeks or months.

**Free Will Offering Envelope**

Helps you ensure that your giving happens regularly – you don't miss any weeks.

**Finally**

Whatever your response in terms of your weekly/monthly giving, can I encourage you to consider making a bequest in your will. The church has been greatly blessed though legacies in the past and will be again.

Once again if you have any questions on this subject please speak to me.

*Matthew Smith. Treasurer*

Leprosy  
Mission

I have now taken on responsibility for sending any money collected, to Head Office at the Leprosy Mission.

If anyone has a collectors plial or would like one to support this worthwhile mission, please speak to me.

*Bobby Hitchin*

# RUTH's CHAT (from the FIELD)

No.25

Brazzaville, Congo

March 2001

Dear friends!

*How would you define what makes a good Bible translation?  
What is the process involved in translating a text from one language into another?*

These questions and others are currently occupying the minds of 23 Congolese and Gabonese participants attending our 3 week "Introduction to Bible Translation Principles" course here in Brazzaville.

Possible answers to the above questions:

*"A GOOD translation is one that communicates the MEANING of the original message".*

*"To translate is to express as accurately as possible the MEANING of the original message, using the grammatical structures and expressions which are natural in the target language."*

Of course, each language has its own set of idioms and ways of expressing things (Greek and Hebrew are no exception to this), and if one translates LITERALLY (word for word), one ends up with some fairly amusing or bizarre sentences.



E.g. "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance." (Matt 3:8)

Is Jesus urging us to take up market gardening here? The Good News puts it differently: "Do those things that will show that you have turned from your sins."

Sometimes, verses need re-expressing first, to bring out the hidden meaning, before they can be translated sensibly into another language.



E.g.: "The Lord's hand was with them..." (Acts 11:21)

"Your blood be on your own heads!" (Acts 8:6)

This is just one kind of problem. There are many more. The Bible often uses vocabulary which is unknown

in the target culture and for which there is no word: e.g. snow, vine, oak, bear, donkey, dessert, sea, breastplate, helmet, frankincense,

myrrh... to name but a few.

If you live in an area of Equatorial rain forest or savannah, life does not include such things!



Even if the word exists in the language, it may have a different meaning. Hebrews 1:14 asks: "Are not all angels ministering spirits...?" For "angel" Mboshi borrows a word from another language, but there IS a word for spirit. However, it NEVER means a divine spirit, always the spirit of a dead person!

Finally, did you realise that "of" (like "de" in French) can mean some very different things?

\* *the house of a tax-collector*  
(the house belonging to a tax-collector OR the house where a tax-collector lives)

\* *the town of Nazareth*  
(the town called Nazareth)

\* *the City of David*  
(the city where David was born)

\* *the wages of sin*  
(the "wages" which sin pays)

\* *before the creation of the world*  
(before the world was created)

\* *the baptism of John*  
(John baptised people OR John was baptised?!)

GOOD translation takes a lot of time and thought...

## OTHER NEWS

### The Mboshi team:

We continue to hold Mboshi alphabet seminars, and have trained twelve Mboshis to form a committee which checks and revises the biblical texts that Roch is translating.

GUY has been working hard to finalise his masters' thesis on Mboshi

phonology, and continues to provide great artwork for our publications.

ROCH has been working on the translation of Bible Society Scripture Booklets into Mboshi and on revising the Reading & Writing manual. Sadly, Roch's daughter died last December of flu. She was two months old...

It is planned that in June or July Roch and his wife Francine will move back to the village. Roch wants to start **Mboshi literacy classes** in the Boundji area, and Andrea will spend the first couple of months with him, to help him get going.

### WHAT NEXT in Congo?

Passing on the vision, trying to get churches involved, and providing training to different language groups will continue to take up a lot of our time and energy. We have yet to see if the idea of an *Association for the Bible in Congolese Languages* will materialise...

At EASTER I'll be in Cameroon for a holiday with my friend Julienne, then to Gabon for work-related meetings before returning to Brazzaville in May

In June, Larry & Cami Robbins will return to USA for two years, leaving Andrea & me to "hold the fort" in Brazzaville, with Jean-Pierre & Alison Mary in Pointe Noire.

There are half a dozen language groups in Congo wanting our help, and we need to follow up those currently attending the training for Bible translators. We hope to have several language groups work on the same passages of Scripture, which



*(Ruth's Chat continued from page 22)*

will make it easier to hold a checking seminar with everyone together, in a few months' time.

We are grateful that Margaret Dobson, a Canadian Wycliffe member from Cameroon, will be coming to Brazzaville in May for three months to set up our library again. All of the dictionaries and most of the French titles were pillaged, but we will gradually be replacing them and making the library available to students again.

In AUGUST, two friends from London may come to visit me, and I will return to ENGLAND with them for around three months! It's not yet clear what exactly I will be doing in England, but that visit will certainly include catching up with some of YOU! ☺

*In the meantime, thanks for your prayers:*

*\* For the small SIL team in Congo & our Congolese co-workers*

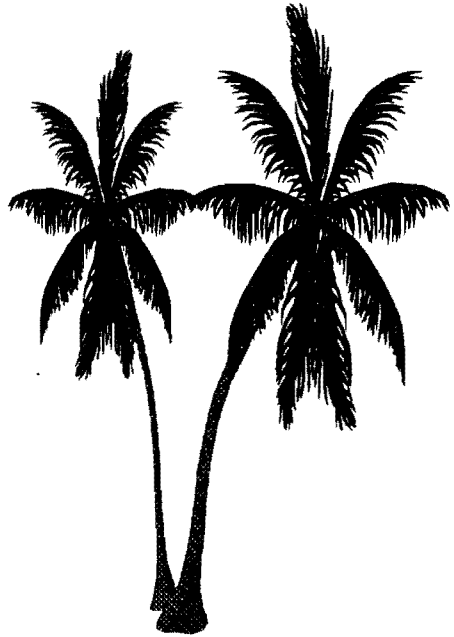
*\* For two or three more SIL workers, urgently needed to help us here!*

*\* For the impact of God's Word (in French and the mother tongue!) on people's lives.*

JESUS IS LORD! May that be a reality in our lives! In Him,

*Ruth*

**Ruth Chatfield**  
**SIL-Congo, B.P. 1067**  
**Brazzaville, CONGO**  
 Internet: [ruth\\_chatfield@sil.org](mailto: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.

.....

# Christian Aid

**Churches Together in Worthing  
Annual Christian Aid service 2001**

**You're making a  
difference**

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Daleep Mukarji  
Director of Christian Aid**

**at St. Andrew's Parish Church, Tarring**

**Thursday 10th May  
at 7.30 pm**

## **Indian Earthquake Appeal**

Christmas Day Collection £115.00  
11 Feb £360.03 + 18 Feb £132.00

---

\*\*\*\*\* Total £607.03 \*\*\*\*\*

## I.B.R.A.

## The International Bible Reading Association 2001

Sometimes we miss out on what the Scripture is saying to us in our Daily Readings. It may be in our portion of Scripture for the day; the tendency is not to spend the time needed in order to get fulfillment from a particular reading.

However, help is here in order that a full understanding of what God is saying to us in the daily readings - The Bible should be read carefully and with Prayer that the Holy Spirit will help the reader to understand the readings - TIME, PRAYER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT - 'Light for our path' and 'Words for today.'

Members of the I.B.R.A. promise to read each day the Bible passage for the day and to pray for each other. It is also part of the National Christian Education Council and is active in promoting regular reading of the Bible all over the World.

*Pheniah Taylor*

### Rowland Singers Concert

**The Easter Concert this year being given by the Rowland Singers is on Wednesday 11th April at 7.30pm.**

**Admission is by programme price £3.00 which can be obtained from members of the choir or on the door on the day.**

The works we shall be singing are the Faure Requiem and Gounod Messe Solennelle. The three soloists are Soprano, Helen Emery; Tenor, Anthony Cartmell and Baritone, Nick Ryder. The organist is Brian Sawyer and the conductor, as usual, is Jacky Emery.

We do hope many of you will be able to come to prepare for Easter in words and music. Refreshments will be served in the interval. Remember half of the proceedings after expenses go to church funds.

*Sheila Gooderham*

## Alpha evangelism course to go on TV

Television viewers in Britain will soon be able to tune into a course about Christianity, the Religion Today news service said.

Ten one-hour programmes on national television next year will show non-Christians learning doctrine and asking questions to an instructor during the Alpha course, a low-key, user-friendly introduction to the faith. Talk show host David Frost runs the series, one of the largest religious projects on national television in recent years.

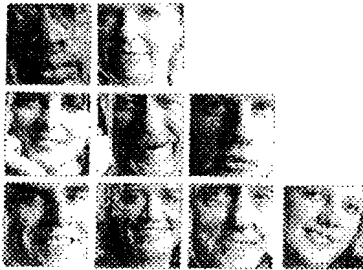
"Alpha: Could It Change Your Life?"

follows a group of 12 people as they

participate in Alpha. Mr. Frost presents each programme and interviews the group at the end to see if their attitude toward the Christian faith has changed.

The Alpha course was started by the Anglican Holy Trinity Brompton church to reach out to modern society. It is now used around the world.

an opportunity to explore the meaning of life



## President's Christian faith saved him

South Korea's president says he believes a personal encounter with Jesus Christ saved his life and gave him a passion for peace, the Religion Today news service said.

President Kim Dae Jung, who recently won the Nobel Peace Prize, has faced numerous trials throughout his life, including attempts on his life and years of imprisonment and exile under past military regimes, according to the National Catholic Reporter. The most terrifying moment came in 1973 when Mr. Kim, bound and blindfolded by agents of the South Korean government, was about to be dumped into the sea. God intervened to save me, said Mr. Kim, a Roman Catholic. "I

used to pray twice a day, but at that crucial moment I didn't and was only thinking about how I could save myself," he said. "At that moment, Jesus Christ stood beside me. I firmly held his sleeves, honestly begging for my life. A few seconds later, red beams of light flashed through my blindfold, and I heard a boom, boom! Then there was the sound of planes approaching and somebody calling my name." US agents had intervened to save Mr. Kim from drowning. His life was spared. Mr. Kim said he believes that the imprisonment, torture and forced exiles he experienced "happened in the process of God's redemptive work, and in that sense, I think, I have also participated in God's salvation process."



## Presbyterians have forgotten the poor

New Zealand's Presbyterian congregations have a reputation of being middle or upper class and have forgotten the poor. Dr Eldin Villafane, a Pentecostal professor of Christian social ethics,

told the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand in October. Pentecostalism, however, is the fastest growing Christian movement in the world because of its commitment to reaching

the poorest of the poor, he said, according to the ecumenical Crosslink newspaper. He said prayer was the key to fighting injustice. "Prayer allows us to stand firm when we face evil days. It is the breastplate of righteousness."

## Waiting upon the Lord

Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

They shall soar on wings like eagles.

They shall run and not grow weary.

They shall walk and not be faint.

Make us wait upon you Lord in this new century.

Make us listen to your word of comfort in times of sorrow.

Make us be peacemakers in our communities.

Make us be instruments of love to all.

Direct us in ways of righteous and truth,  
Direct us in prayers and devotions,  
Direct us in serving and following You sincerely,  
Direct us in trusting and obeying your commands.

Help us assist those in need of support,  
Help us pray for others and feed the hungry.

Help us speak to and cheer up the lonely.

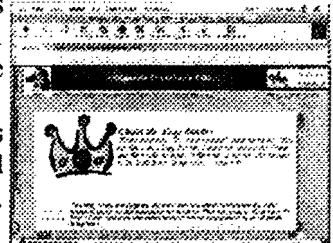
Help us wait upon your second coming in faith.

*Goodwin Zainga*

**A Methodist minister has set up a "Desperate Preachers" website for busy pastors who need to prepare their sermons fast, Ecumenical News International said.**

"Back in 1996, I was looking for something on the internet that I could use for my preaching - for some way to exchange thoughts and experiences with fellow desperate preachers. There was nothing there, so I decided to start the ministry I was looking for," said Frank Schaefer.

The website, [www.desperatepreacher.com](http://www.desperatepreacher.com), has topical and children's sermons, published manuscripts, and worship resources such as prayers, litanies and hymns.





G.F. Handel

# MESSIAH

Jacquelyn Fugellie -	Soprano
Rebecca de Font Davies -	Contralto
Michael Hart-Davis -	Tenor
Richard Mosley-Evans -	Baritone

and CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Leader - Richard Sutcliffe

conducted by Donovan Brown

**Good Friday, 13 April at 7.30pm**  
**Assembly Hall, Worthing**

Tickets: £10 (Balcony), £8 and £6  
from Pavilion or Connaught Theatre Box Office or  
Call Centre, tel. 01903/206206, or at the door

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

### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Emmanuel (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The May CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 29th April. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or computer disk) to the Editor by Sunday 15th April. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material yourself.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

E-Mail: [thechronicle@btinternet.com](mailto:thechronicle@btinternet.com)

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 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.

### WELCOME Editors

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Gaynor Anderson-Easey	Tel: 01903 539868
May 6, 13, 20	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568
May 27	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177



### *Worthing Area Team Ministry*

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.



# The CHRONICLE

May 2001

---

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

*A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry*

---



Goring

## Church Life Profile Day

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2001

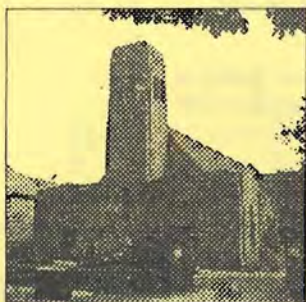


St Andrew's

**Christian Aid Week**  
**13-19 May 2001**



Shelley Road



St Columba's

**Worthing Area Team Service**  
**St Columba's - 13th May**

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

E-Mail: [gurc@worthingchurch.co.uk](mailto:gurc@worthingchurch.co.uk)      Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - Friday rest day  
 Rev Norman Croft (Part time) - Telephone 01903 715813 - Wednesday rest day  
 Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) - Telephone 01903 713 506 - Monday rest day  
 Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

Church Secretary: Mrs 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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Jane Bond

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

Telephone: 01903 244157

Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-

St Andrew's: Mr Leslie Stewart 01903 722610

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton. 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## 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.

---

---

# *The* CHRONICLE

No. 554

May 2001

---

## Contents:

2      from The Manse ....    Rev Andrew Sellwood

3      **Our Church -**  
        Handbook amendment  
        Tape Library

4      **Church Life Profile Day: Sunday 20th May 2001**

6-7    **A month in the life of....    Rev Andrew Sellwood**

8-9    **for your Diary ...**



10-11    **'Pearls of Wisdom !'**

### **Christian Aid**

12      You're making a difference  
13      Walk the heart of London  
16      Talk by Dr. Daleep Mukarji -  
            Director of Christian Aid at St Andrew's Tarring

### **World Church & Mission**

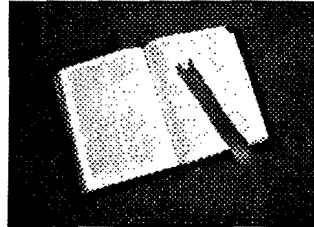
14-15    Filling the gap  
5      Bible Society Coffee Morning





Dear friends

How seriously do you take the Bible? or, how does God's word revealed in Scripture influence and shape your life? This question is sparked off by a radio interview I heard the other day.



An 'angry young man', a self confessed agnostic, was grilling a senior Christian leader about the Bible. The young man was very articulate, well structured in his arguments and attacks on the Bible. In short, he said it was an out of date irrelevant work and he was surprised so many people could build a belief structure around it in our post modern age. I was not angered by this, instead I looked forward to the reply. But it was the reply that made me angry. The learned cleric said "Well ... It all depends how seriously you take the Bible, each believer is different". He went on to say "Some of the Bible is obviously not relevant to today's world, and quite frankly impossible to live by. Of course we have to look at it in context of our present society...".

I thought for a moment, before getting too worked up, just how seriously do we take the Bible? In our churches; how much of the love of Jesus is to be seen, how much of the joy we have in us is expressed in our worship, how much unity is there between churches, how much compassion is there in our mission, how much of the Holy Spirit's guidance is there in our decision making?

It gives rise to the well used comment - you don't have to go to church to be a Christian. It can seem that there are more 'Christ like' people in our community than in fellowship. This is worrying, it is precisely because we do not take the Bible seriously enough that we become ineffective and open to such attack. We all need to take the Bible a whole lot more seriously for it means the difference between death or life for us; is that serious enough??

*Yours in Christ, Andrew*



**Handbook Amendment****Death**

Miss Jenny Allison  
on 14th April 2001

We give thanks for her life and Christian witness and pray for peace in the hearts of her family and friends.

**Web Site**

Worthing Area Team Ministry  
[www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

**Goring URC Tape Services**

Some people may not be aware that our 10.30 morning services are recorded onto audio tape. Evening services by request.

These tapes are available for you to borrow and take away to a sick friend or relative unable to get to church, or simply for you, as you may like to listen to a part of, or all the service again! There is no charge for the service.

*Please speak to Graham Redman or Alan Cooper during the mornings or Paul Long evenings, on the Sound Desk at the back of the church.*

**Team Service  
St Columba's  
15 May 2001**

The Worthing Area Team Service and commissioning of Sheila Gooderham as our Lay Person will take place at St Columba's URC at 10.45am on 13th May.

At 6.00pm on the same day we shall worship together with other Christians in Goring at St Mary's church. Consequently there will be no services in our church at 10.30am and 6.00pm on that day.

**Christian Resources Exhibition**

15 - 18 May 2001

Sandown Park • Esher • Surrey

**Christianity  
& Schools**  
16 - 18 May 2001



# Church Life Profile Day

**Sunday May 20th 2001**

(and for the week following)

Churches Information for Mission (CIM) have launched Church Life Profile Day to enable a 'snap shot' of the Church's life throughout the country and across denominations; a picture of how things are in the year 2001. Here are some details taken from their website at [www.cim.org.uk](http://www.cim.org.uk)

## **INFORMED MISSION**

CIM works to realise the potential for congregations and Churches to plan their mission at local, regional or national level in the light of accurate information about their internal and external circumstances:

- by the gathering of statistical information about the size of local churches and the quality of their life and so helping them understand themselves and discern their mission.
- by the interpretation of statistics gathered over a period of time, so that lessons may be learned and shared widely to strengthen mission.
- by enabling churches at local, area and regional level to relate to their communities through the use of modern mapping techniques and government census data and so inform mission planning.

## **EFFECTIVE NETWORKING**

CIM works within the Churches and Christian agencies to enable people with similar interests and/or responsibilities to be put in touch with one another. Success in fulfilling this aim will result in the human and material resources of the Christian community being deployed to greater effect.

Churches Information  for Mission

## COLLABORATION BETWEEN CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

CIM works to build trust between its members in matters of surveys and data handling by promoting a Code of Good Practice.

## PARTICIPATION

The number of signed in churches is heading for the 2,500 mark. The huge geographical spread and variety of denomination give a foretaste of the huge potential of the CLP project.

The Church Life Profile will be reaching **through local churches to the actual people** who are in our churches. The fruit of the CLP will be deep insight into **attenders** rather than attendance. To put it rather crudely, **"it is more about soul searching than bum counting!"** The questionnaire to be filled in by church attenders at the end of April is the heart of the enterprise.

Questionnaires to gather information about the church as a building and an organisation and about local church

leaders are there to provide a background to enhance the level of understanding which emerges from the attenders questionnaire.

Goring URC is to be part of this Profile and everyone who attends worship during the week beginning May 20th will be asked to complete a Profile questionnaire. (You only need to complete one form even if you come to more than one service) and everyone from the youngest to the oldest will be included. Rev Andrew Sellwood will be conducting worship at 10.30 am on the Sunday and will enable us to fill in our questionnaires before we go home. If you are normally unable to attend church, you will be given the opportunity to fill in a questionnaire at home.

**Please make a special note of this Sunday in your diary and encourage everyone to come to church on this day.**

*If you would like to know more please speak to Rev Andrew Sellwood or Mrs Hilary Redman*

## Bible Society Coffee Morning

Tuesday 22 May 2001 ~ 10.00 - 12.00 Mid-day

**Worthing Baptist Church, Christchurch Road**

**Speaker - Olive McCarten**

who will talk on the work of the Bible Society

There will be a Bring & Buy cake stall

# A Month in the Life of ...

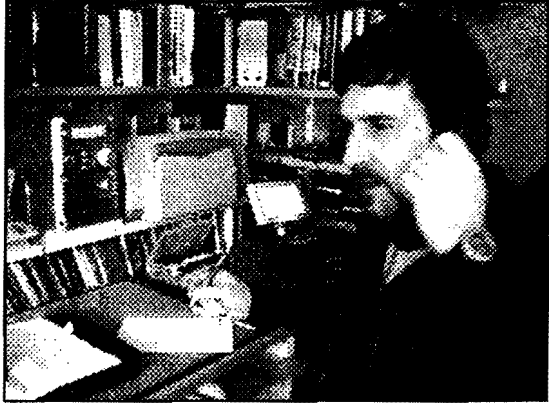
## Rev Andrew Sellwood

**T**his is my first magazine letter since arriving in the Goring Team ministry, though it seems like I have been here for ages (that's a good comment)! People have been very supportive and encouraging and we are managing to settle very well.

The whole concept and practice of team ministry is new to me. It does take a little getting used to I have to say, but its advantages outweigh the disadvantages.

I regularly meet with the other three ministers and have found that time together very rewarding, although we are all very different I think that our diversity goes on to lead to really creative team ministry.

It's not just the four named ministers that have a ministry in the team, there are the many lay (I don't like using that term its a bit pejorative) people who work away without recognition who underpin the life and spirit of the church. I am still finding my way around and realise the practice of remembering names is defeating me, so forgive me if I look a little vague some times when you are talking about some one who may have attended the church perhaps five years ago.



*Andrew in his study at The Manse*

As I have mentioned in the team meetings there is real scope for some radical new ministry opportunities in our communities. But with all these ideas there first has to be a vision and that vision shared by the churches, we as ministers can't push something unless the body of the church is behind it. I am excited by the prospects that lay ahead of us, we can with our varied resources respond to all challenges that come our way and make a difference in the world as we are obedient to God and empowered by the Spirit.

I suddenly remember the title of this article a month in the life of ... I had better comply with that brief. Or how about a typical week in the life of .... Here follows the amazing revelation that ministers don't just work on a Sunday.

Monday - Receive feedback from weekend volunteered by grateful member of congregation. Write article for local paper. Prep day for Sunday worship writing two sermons and trying to think of a children's address, choosing ten hymns that suite every one's taste ... Difficult day Monday!

Tuesday - Phone calls. Drop in at coffee morning to catch up with latest news, usually followed by as many pastoral visits as time allows, there is usually some meeting in the afternoon and in the evening. Write Bible study notes. An answer phone message leads to the arrangement of a funeral.

Wednesday - Correspondence, time to wade through the ever increasing pile of paper work on the desk. Three copies of the same memo on the bottom it boldly declares - we are committed to saving trees! Mind you the URC does use exceedingly colourful paper. Start planning a discipleship course. Visit bereaved family. Meeting in evening.

Thursday - More visiting, lots of phone calls and meetings ... Still no idea for a children's address, the computer has crashed. Lunch time fraternal. Called out on an urgent visit. (Evening meetings on calendar this day tend to have the note 'Jill don't wait up'). Girls have difficult maths home work, need help, meetings do have their advantages, sorry Jill.

Friday - Day off (not this week)- Carry out funeral arranged the week before. Need to write up some college work. Unblock drain. Meeting with district enabler.

Saturday - College work, deadline is next week! Drop in on that church sale, Oh and must tick off another thing on Jill's DIY list ... Mr.A needs to just pop round for a chat, Mrs B has a family crisis.

Sunday - Ah! Sunday. The joy of leading worship and the chance to meet the congregation(s). That is what its all about to worship God and to be with the people of God, it puts the rest of the week into perspective.

That was just one typical week some are better some are worse. I have not written it for sympathy or for some one to say is that all he does, but to underline the variety of the work load of a minister. It is hard to work to a neat time managed routine as prescribed by colleges. We work with and for people. People don't run to a timetable, there are instances where you just have to push everything to one side and respond to the needs of the moment. So please be patient with your team ministers, we are there for you.

PS - I know some times its hard to get hold of me but please leave a message on my answer phone, just a name and a number will do. Several people have said I tried ringing you three or four times last week and you were either engaged or I only got the answer phone - that's what its for please feel free to use it and I will get back to you.

PPS - Due to the rewiring of the manse my phone has been out of order for several days in April.

*Andrew*



For your Diary in 2001...



Thu 3 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Mon 7 May Day Bank Holiday

Tue 8 2.30pm Women's Guild AGM

Thu 10 7.30pm Elders' Meeting  
7.30pm CTW: Christian Aid Service at St Andrew's C of E Tarring

Sat 12 7.45pm Praise Evening for Churches in the Park at Sion Convent



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
\*\*\* 10.45am Worthing Area Team Service at St Columba's \*\*\*  
6.00pm CTG Service at St Mary's

**NB. There are no services in Goring at either 10.30am or 6.00pm today**

Christian Aid Week  
13-19 May 2001

**Worthing Area Team Service:** To assist everyone to come, those needing transport and those with spare seats in their cars please arrive at Goring church before 10.15am so that lifts can be arranged.

**Christian Aid Week:** If you are collecting for Christian Aid this week, you may collect your bag of belongings from Geoffrey Redman at St Columba's, or at St Mary's in the evening.

Sat 19 Last day of Christian Aid Week

**Church Life Profile Day**



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

Tue 22 2.30pm Women's Guild Outing



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

Mon 28 Spring Bank Holiday

Thu 31 7.30pm Church Meeting

Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2001...

**Whit Sunday**

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

Thu 7 From 9.30am Day of Prayer  
 Healing Ministry at Burrswood

**Junior Church Anniversary**

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 Morning Worship  
 6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

Sat 23 Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning



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

Thu 28 7.30pm Church Meeting

**Looking ahead . . . . .**

1st July CTG St Richard's at 6.00pm  
 14th July Team Barbeque  
 17th July Women's Guild Strawberry Tea  
 21st July Youth weekend. Coldwaltham  
 28th July Moderator's retirement party



*You have a choice!*

The following was discovered in another Church Magazine by one of our members :

**Pearls (of wisdom) from across the 'Pond'.**

Read This. Let It Really Sink In ... it Takes About 2 Minutes  
Then Choose How You Start Your Day Tomorrow...

Michael is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Michael was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation. Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Michael and asked him, "I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?"

Michael replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, "Mike, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood".

I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it.

Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life.

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy." I protested.

"Yes, it is," Michael said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: it's your choice how you live life."

I reflected on what Michael said. Soon thereafter, I left the Tower Industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that Michael was involved in a serious accident, falling some 60 feet from a communications tower. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Michael was released from the hospital with rods placed in his back.

*You have a choice!*

I saw Michael about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was. He replied. "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna see my scars?"

I declined to see his wounds, but did ask him what had gone through his mind as the accident took place.

"The first thing that went through my mind was the well-being of my soon-to-be born daughter," Michael replied. "Then, as I lay on the ground, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or I could choose to die. I chose to live."

"Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked.

Michael continued. "...The paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read 'he's a dead man.' "I knew I needed to take action."

"What did you do?" asked.

"Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Michael. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. "Yes, I replied." The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, "Gravity." Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live, Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead."

Michael lived, thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything.

"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." Matthew 6:34.

You have two choices now:

1. Discard this, or 2. Forward it to the people you care about.

I hope you will choose No. 2- ----- I did.

*Elmer Johnson*  
*Chief, Occupational Safety & Quality Assurance Branch.*

# Christian Aid Week 13-19 May 2001

## You're making a difference!

Christian Aid Week this year is a celebration of making a difference and focuses on people in Uganda, Brazil and Bangladesh. Debt campaigning by people in the UK and Ireland has made a real difference to people's lives. One example is Uganda where debt relief means that children can now go to primary school without having to pay fees.

In Brazil, Christian Aid's partner the Rural Landless Workers' Movement, has set up tea-growing cooperatives; whenever people in other countries buy fairly traded products, such communities benefit.

In Bangladesh the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh, also partly funded by Christian Aid, is helping people improve their lives by making loans to small businesses.


Even though the amount you give, the campaigning action you take, the prayer you say may seem to be a drop in the ocean, together all these things really are making a difference.

### Could you be a collector?

If you could collect in a street near you, please speak to Geoffrey Redman. His telephone number is 260568.

Last year Christian Aid Week raised a record £12 million of which £600,000 came from the tax reclaimed on people's donations. If you are a UK tax payer, Christian Aid can reclaim an extra 28% over and above the amount you give, whether that is £1, £10, or £100. All you need to do is to make sure that you fill in your name, address, and the amount you are giving on the red Christian Aid Week envelope.

*UK taxpayers, help make an extra difference to the lives of some of the world's poorest people.*

**Christian  Aid**

**We believe in life before death**





"It's amazing what you can get on line these days!"

## Walk the heart of London

*Sunday 20 May 2001, 2-5pm*

Once again Christian Aid invites you to central London for a sponsored walk around the historic heart of the capital. It is designed for walkers of all ages, all paces and abilities, with entertainment, activities for children and a thanksgiving service as Christian Aid Week 2001 comes to an end.

Beginning from Westminster Central Hall at 2pm (refreshments available from 1pm) you can visit some of London's oldest churches, taking in Fleet Street, Strand, Whitehall and the north bank of the Thames to the new piazza up to St Paul's. There will be refreshments and

entertainment for children along the way, together with live music, exhibitions and special guests - all to raise funds for the world's poorest communities.

The event will end with a Thanksgiving Service at 5.15pm back at Westminster Central Hall.

*Further details, with a sponsorship form and map, are available from Christian Aid, London and Southeast team, All Hallows on the Wall, 83 London Wall, London EC2M 5ND.*

Tel: 0207 496 1686.

**Christian Aid**

We believe in life before death

# Filling the gap

**Few Jamaicans can afford to enter their nation's university system. Nick Sireau finds out how the United Church has developed training centres that combine good education and hands-on experience.**



Nick Sireau

*Students at the church's training centre work at their jobs in the day and go to their classes in the evening.*

The training centre started with nothing. It had no money, no classrooms, no course outlines, no tutors and no students. All it had was a director, P J Lawrence, with lots of ideas.

So he got to work. He contacted tutors and other people and convinced them to support his vision. They drew up courses and found a classroom in St Paul's United church. They recruited students and started a small library with books that people donated.

Three years later the United Church's Institute for Theological and Leadership Development (ITLD) in Montego Bay is thriving. It is now registered with the University Council of Jamaica and will soon have full accreditation. "It's a great miracle we got this far," says Mr Lawrence.

And the ITLD does many smaller miracles - in

people's lives. Many Jamaicans cannot enter their country's higher educational centres and universities. They do not have the money or the education needed. The ITLD, however, aims to provide good quality education to these people. Many of its students have not completed their primary or secondary education. Yet they have skills developed outside school, in jobs or other activities - what Mr Lawrence calls "life skills". The ITLD has developed a way of evaluating students' life skills to decide the level of teaching they then need.

## Focus on the poor

Mr Lawrence explains: "An ITLD student was a reporter with a local newspaper. He did a good job there, but didn't have any formal qualifications to help him develop his career. The ITLD told him to put together a portfolio of his work and keep a journal of his job signed by his editor. We could then assess this and find a formal equivalent, usually five GCSEs [qualifications based on the UK's education system]."

Students at the ITLD usually continue with their job and come to classes in the evening or on weekends. Topics are varied, from the psychology of adolescence, to management principles, to computers.

Emphasis is on applying the skills learnt in class to work or church, while most other institutions focus on intellectual learning with practical applications tagged on.

The training centre helps its students observe society and become agents of change. While much other education is elitist and helps the rich get richer through new skills, the ITLD encourages its students to focus on the poor and become involved in their communities.

A course called Reading the Bible with New Eyes last year focused on this. Led by Pedro Julio Triano Fernandes of the Evangelical Seminary of Theology in Cuba, it approached topics such as the bible and the excluded, AIDS patients, prostitutes and homosexuals.

"People need a solid biblical foundation," says Mr Lawrence. "We try to make them look beyond themselves to the mission of the Church. Too often the fundamentalist churches distort Scripture and divide the Jamaican Church. They offer an other wordly, emotional spirituality that is far from the realities of the people."

Such training is particularly useful for trainee ministers. The United Church does

not have enough pastors for its congregations and welcomes students who can study while ministering to local churches.

Says Vilma Bayley-Hay, secretary of the United Church's Cornwall Council: "Some congregations don't like this. They want a full-time minister and feel like they're being treated second class when they receive a student." But it's the only option when pastors are so few that some have to look after up to eight congregations.

There are other United Church ITLD centres dotted around Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. Two have started in the church's North and South Middlesex councils. All show the same determination to provide good training with a biblical basis.

As Preman Niles, the CWM general secretary, said when reflecting on the Kingston ITLD's 10th anniversary in 1999, "it has taken and will continue to take an enormous amount of effort, commitment and will to make the ITLD work."

## URC synod trains ministers for change

The UK's United Reformed Church (URC) East Midlands Synod recently held a seminar for ministers on managing change, URC

Mission Enabler Rev Prince Dibeela said. The seminar, led by Baptist minister Cliff Hayward, helped ministers reflect on how to introduce change, the importance of positive relationships for change to take place, and ways of making people

involved in mission.

Synod Training Officer Rev Elizabeth Nash organised the seminar. It followed a summer school earlier in the year led by Mr Dibeela on the CWM theme, "What does the Lord require of Us?".

---

*The articles on these 2 pages are reproduced from Inside Out with kind permission of CWM*

---

**Churches Together in Worthing  
Annual Christian Aid service 2001**

**Christian  Aid**

**You're making a  
difference**

**Speaker:  
Dr. Daleep Mukarji  
Director of Christian Aid**

**at St.Andrew's Parish Church, Tarring**

**Thursday 10th May  
at 7.30 pm**

**Christian Aid Week  
13-19 May 2001**

**Christian Aid Week  
13-19 May 2001**

**Christian Aid Week  
13-19 May 2001**

### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Emmians (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The June CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 3rd June. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or computer disk) to the Editor by Sunday 20th May. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material yourself.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

E-Mail: [thechronicle@btinternet.com](mailto:thechronicle@btinternet.com)

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 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

May 6, 13, 20	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568
May 27	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
June 3, 10, 17, 24	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334



# Christianity



## Worthing Area Team Ministry

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.

# The CHRONICLE

June 2001

---

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

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

---



**In this issue: -**

**Our Church  
Worthing Area  
For your Diary...  
World Church & Mission  
A month in the life of ...**





## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

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

Team Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 602481 - Friday rest day

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

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

Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

*Church Secretary:* Mrs 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 Representative for Goring:* Mrs Sheila Gooderham

15 Hartvey Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS

Telephone: 01903 506452

*Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-*

St Andrew's: Mr Jack Crox 01903 770689

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## 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.

The CHRONICLE

No. 555

June 2001

## Contents:

- 2 from The Manse .... Rev Andrew Sellwood**

## Our Church -

- 3**      Handbook amendments  
          Change of address  
          Rowland Singers June Concert  
          Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning

### A month in the life of ...

- 4-5 - The House & Fabric Group.**

## Worthing Area

- 6 Annual Team Service at St Columba's  
7 Congregational Players—Shelley Road

- 8-9 for your Diary . . .**



- ## 10 Miscellaneous

**World Church & Mission**

- 11** From Belfast to Benua  
**12-13** Report from Wycliffe Bible Translators,  
- Ruth Chatfield  
**13** Christian Aid Week Results  
**14-15** The story of an outcast from "Inside Out"



*from The Manse . . . Rev Andrew Sellwood*

---

Dear Friends,

During the last two days (May 12-13) I have felt there has been a real sense of UNITY among the local churches.

The Worthing area Team service at St. Columbus was a real celebration of the unity of four quite distinctive and individual churches that make up this team. It was a blessing that we were able to come together to worship God with such variety and talent. The only shame was that even more folk could not come to join us.

At the Christian Aid commissioning service at St. Andrew's, we discovered in a real way that Christians can make a difference in our world when they come together for a specific aim. In this case to help relieve suffering and poverty in our troubled world. Georgiana Treasure, a Christian Aid worker whose area of service is Uganda, spoke to us of just how much our efforts count. We can engender a sense of unity with our brothers and sisters in this world, for we can actually and effectively help them. £10 to us is so readily swallowed up in paying bills but in Uganda it can establish a family run farm!

The Praise Service for 'Churches in the park' at Sion School was a really informal and joyous event, people came together from such different denominations, but again united in one cause to promote the name of Jesus, Lord and Saviour in this town. Through this witness to the community we have the opportunity to show we as Christians have a human side and can enjoy ourselves. I hope and pray that the URC representation in Worthing can actively take part and support this wonderful outreach opportunity [July 28th 12.00noon to 10:30pm. Steyne Gardens]. Again the only drawback to the evening was the lack of churches supporting the event, 15 out of 50!

For some it is all too easy to keep to their own small corner, safe within their own beloved building; but is that honouring God? Do we worship the dead bricks and mortar or the living Lord? Through Psalm 133 we see that Christians should dwell together in unity in the local church, why?, because God thinks its good v.1. We are urged to be in unity with other Christians in a wider context, why?, because God deems it pleasant v.1. We are urged to come together in worship, why?, because it brings God's blessing v.3b. God has given us a reason to live and work together in unity. We unite ourselves for a successful mission for the blessing of God. We need to put the past behind us; past grudges, past agenda's, past power struggle's. Its time for us to come together in unity .... will you?

Yours in His service, *Andrew*



### Handbook Amendments

#### Deaths :

**Mrs Betty Barnett on Friday 4 May 2001**

**Mrs Lilian Pike on Friday 11 May 2001**

Their funeral services were held on Wednesday 16th and Friday 18th May respectively.

We give thanks for the lives and Christian witnesses of Betty and Lilian and pray for peace in the hearts of their families and friends.

### Change of address

Eileen & Wilfred Rhodes  
have moved to:-  
Woodlands, 3 Fernhurst Drive  
Goring by Sea, West Sussex. BN12 5AS  
Tel: 01903 248263

### Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning Saturday 23rd June 10.00am-12.00noon

We invite you all to join us in supporting this cause, and to enjoy meeting together.

We will be having **Bring & Buy** and **Cake stalls**.

If you have something we can sell, a box will be put in the Vestibule at the beginning of June.

We will be very grateful for your gifts. Hope to see you on the 23rd. Any queries to:-

*Bobby Hitchin*

### Rowland Singers June Concert

The Rowland Singers, together with other users of the Church halls, have been asked whether we can see our way to help the church maintain the premises, part of which we use each week.

We have decided to put on a concert on Saturday 23rd June at 7.30pm the tickets/programmes will be £3.00, the proceeds of which, apart from paying our pianist, will go to the church.

The programme will consist of light music with songs by Andrew Lloyd Webber, a compilation of the tunes from the Sound of Music and arrangements of other well-known songs such as 'Smoke gets in your eyes'. We hope as many of you will be able to come and in a small way contribute to our church finances.

*Sheila Gooderham*

# A Month in the Life of ... the House & Fabric Group

Throughout the year the House & Fabric Group have regular meetings to consider estimates from builders and contractors to carry out the repairs on the Church and Manse buildings.

Urgent repairs have already been attended to - more especially the flat roofs at the church and rewiring at the manse.

The asbestos in the loft area of the Church Hall is due for removal in August.

In addition there is the day to day maintenance in respect of plumbing defects, repairs to gas heaters, organ tuning and garden maintenance.



*Replacement of lead flashing to flat roof of Vestibule.*

We are indebted to all members who come to the premises on a regular basis to ensure that the buildings are kept in good order.

Later in the year, the flat roofs at the Manse will be renewed and possibly temporary repairs carried out to the copper roof of the Church.

Many thanks to all who helped during the recent Working Party Week - see following page.

Despite problems with the weather good progress was made with a variety of jobs both inside and outside the Church. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Some members carried out works before and after the Working Party Week. Others will be attending to outstanding items later in the year.

*Colin Nodes*

### Working Party Week

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April dawned cloudy but dry and from early in the morning church members arrived to help with our week of spring-cleaning. Colin was there to allocate jobs and soon everyone was busy with scrubbing brush and buckets, paint pot and brush, pollyfilla or wood stain.

The more venturesome among us were climbing ladders to attend to the flat roof and high window frames. Before long the front doors were gleaming, windowsills filled and painted, skirting boards renewed and generations of woodlice were sent packing from cupboards.

Throughout the week, people continued to work, clearing the Church bank, cleaning the yard and generally helping wherever there was a need. It was good to see that one of the seats in front of the Church was replaced.

Throughout it all there was usually someone free to provide a welcome cup of tea or coffee. Every occasion provided an opportunity to get to know someone better rather than just in passing before or after a Church activity.

Whilst we still have concern about rotting wood and leaking roofs and where best to install a toilet for the disabled, I was glad to remember that we need have no concern for the foundations of our Church, being reminded of the beautiful hymn by Samuel John Stone: - 'The Church's One Foundation, is Jesus Christ Our Lord'.

*Robin Bradley*



*Colin Nodes usually has a list of outstanding jobs!*



# Worthing Area

## Worthing Area Team Ministry Annual Service of Commitment & Dedication St. Columba's Church Sunday 13 May 2001

About 160 members from the four Team churches gathered together in St Columba's Church on Sunday 13th May for the Annual Service of Commitment and dedication.



*Hymn: 'Almighty Father of all things that be'*

We were reminded that the prime reason for coming together was to worship God but also for the commissioning of the two new lay representatives: Mr. Jack Croy from St Andrew's, and Mrs Sheila Gooderham from Goring.

Thanks were given to those who are presently serving, and to Mrs Jane Bond and Mr Leslie Stewart for their valued contribution to the Team as they now stand down. The Rev Andrew Sellwood, Rev Norman Croft and Rev Margaret Ashby with the joint choirs and the Young People's Music Group led our worship.



*Commissioning of Sheila & Jack.*

The Rev Dr Kenneth Greet spoke to us and took his text from Ephesians chapter 4 verse 3: "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." He spoke of the need of the Spirit in four related areas:- the Church, Ordained and Lay Members of the Church, the work of Men and Women, and lastly. Science and Religion.

*Graham Redman*



*Welcome tea & coffee after the service.*

# The Congregational Players

PRESENT

2

*Lighthearted Operettas*



**Perseverance**  
by A.P. Herbert & Vivian Ellis  
by arrangement with Walter Chappell Music Ltd

**The Isle of Tulipatan**  
by Jacques Offenbach



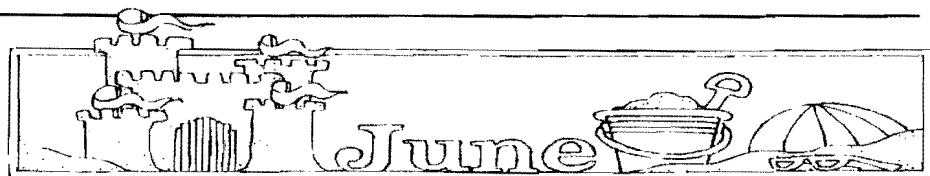
12<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> June 2001  
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL  
SHELLEY ROAD WORTHING

7.30 P.M.

Tickets: Tue & Wed £4.50    Thur, Fri & Sat £5.00  
available from Keith & Marion Smithers 01903 202000



For your Diary in 2001...

**Whit Sunday**

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

**3**

Thu 7 From 9.30am Day of Prayer  
Healing Ministry at Burrswood

**Junior Church Anniversary**

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

**10**

Thu 14 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

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

**17**

Last day for July  
Chronicle material

Sat 23 10.00am-12.00noon Leprosy Mission Coffee Morning

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

**24**

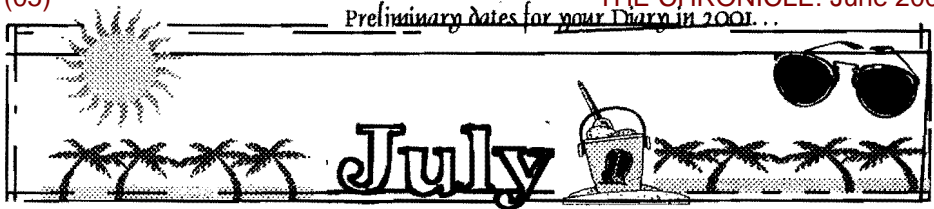
Thu 28 7.30pm Church Meeting

**A notice from Churches Together in Worthing**

*"When I was a stranger, you welcomed me ..."*  
West Sussex Social Services Department is responsible for looking after all unaccompanied refugee children and young people under the age of 18 years who claim asylum at Gatwick Airport. They come from a variety of

countries and arrive here for many different reasons, but all have two things in common - they are here without their families and they need a warm, comfortable, welcoming home where they can feel safe and make plans for their future. The Child Asylum Team in Worthing are currently looking for people who →

Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2001...



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
 10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
 6.00pm CTG Evening Worship at St Richard's C of E

Thu 5 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Tue 10 2.30pm Women's Guild Strawberry Tea

Thu 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 14 Team Barbeque



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

Sat 21 Youth Weekend at Coldwaltham



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

Thu 28 7.30pm Church Meeting



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

might like to offer lodgings to fairly independent young asylum seekers aged between 16 and 19 years of age. This can either be lodgings on a full board basis or room only. If you would like to know more, please contact the Child Asylum Team, Mondays-Wednesdays, on 01903 821852 and ask for Louise Williamson, the Accommodation Officer. Louise will be pleased to answer your questions and can

tell you more about the West Sussex supported lodgings scheme. If this is not for you, but you have a bed-sit or flat you are considering renting out, Louise would still be pleased to hear from you! Some of our young people are ready to live without support while they continue their studies. West Sussex are able to provide rent guarantees as long as the rent is at Housing Benefit levels or below.

**The Fifth Richard Stewart Memorial Lecture**

**The Commitment of the Roman Catholic Church to Unity in the new Millennium**

**by His Eminence Cardinal Edward Cassidy**

**until recently President of the Pontifical Council  
for the Promotion of Christian Unity**

**8pm Friday 22 June 2001**

**Worth Abbey, Crawley, West Sussex**

**Blessings**

The man whispered, "God, speak to me:"  
and a meadowlark sang. But, the man did not hear.

So the man yelled "God, speak to me!:"  
And, the thunder rolled across the sky. But, the man did not listen.

The man looked around and said, "God, let me see you;"  
And a star shined brightly. But the man did not notice.

And, the man shouted, "God, show me a miracle;  
And, a life was born. But, the man did not know.

So, the man cried out in despair, "Touch me God, and let me know you are  
here!:"

And God reached down and touched the man. But, the man brushed the butterfly  
away and walked on.

*Don't miss out on a blessing because it isn't packaged the way that You  
expect.*

*~~ seen in the New Malden URC magazine ~~*

# From **Belfast** to **Benua**

by Peter Tate

I had my first taste of mission with a short-term team in Benua, Ghana, developing alphabets for two languages that hadn't been written down before. My main aim was to see how I could serve the Lord with my life.

I studied Mathematics and Computer Science in Belfast and then worked for a computer company for a few years. It was a difficult decision to leave the computer job because I was afraid that, with the pace of change in the computer industry, I might be burning my bridges. However I thought that if God could take care of me in Ghana, he could take care of me in the UK in the future - and he did! After returning from Ghana I was able to return to the same company.

I think your faith grows as you go along, taking one step at a time.

I had already travelled quite a bit in Europe and worked in the USA and Japan. I think it's important to be able to enjoy working away from home with people of other cultures.

There were many days in Ghana when I just had to persevere in doing fairly

routine things, but I tried to keep the overall goal in mind that I was preparing the way for people to have God's word. That's what kept me going rather than having something exciting happening every day.

We realised that what really mattered was our relationships with the local people. Of course, the language work was very interesting. I'm a people person, but I could see that it would be easy to shut yourself in a room and 'get on with the work'. However, we knew we had to share the vision with local people since it was they, not experts, who would translate the Bible. So we were pleased that we were able to build friendships with them.

Now local people are helping to develop literacy materials and begin translation. The fact that they are enthusiastic to continue with the work is the most important thing we left behind.

There were good days and bad days but overall it was a good experience, helped by fellow team members. As a result I decided to apply for longer term service, possibly in Ghana.

*Reproduced from the Wycliffe Bible Translator's 'Words for Life'  
with kind permission of the Editor.*



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR SUPPORTING CONSTITUENCY AND OTHER FRIENDS**  
**JANUARY 2000 - DECEMBER 2000**  
**Ruth Chatfield**

**The work that we have been doing this past year is:** to be part of a team involved in literature production, translation of Scripture booklets, alphabet seminars, etc. for the MBOSHI language. I have also been working with others to promote Mother Tongue scriptures in general and try to involve churches more in this ministry.

**Location:** Republic of CONGO

**Highlights of the year include:**

- 1) Seeing the Mboshi-French dictionary published and received by the community (this represented several years of work)
- 2) Being able to move back to the capital city, Brazzaville (now peaceful with reconstruction work in progress following the war), occupy again the centre which we own here, and see it slowly restored and used for spiritual retreats and overnight stays by pastors, missionaries, etc.
- 3) Starting to work more closely with our Congolese colleagues at the Congolese Bible Society.
- 4) Producing calendars for 2001 with Scripture verses in seven different Congolese languages.

**Setbacks and disappointments:**

- 1) The Mboshi cultural association which we helped to launch and which we hoped would help with language development and literacy, has not "taken off" so far. People do not seem to be sufficiently motivated when it comes down to doing some work themselves!

2) It is also "up-hill" work to get churches involved, although they are happy for US to be developing their languages and translating Scriptures!

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

I praise God that he surrounds me with members of HIS family wherever I am!

**Health:**

I had a couple of months of ill health (malaria, parasites, sinusitis, etc.) but was restored after a period of rest.

**Support level:** Great financial support! Thanks to many faithful supporters!

If support is lacking, it is in terms of personnel on the field! For much of the year we were just four Wycliffe members for the whole of Congo. As well as working in the Mboshi project, we needed to give support to several other language projects, some of which were started by colleagues who are no longer in the country.

[However, one of these language communities (Teke), on realising

*(Continued on foot of page 13)*

A big, big thank you to all those who took part in this year's Appeal Week. The total raised was, wait for it, drum roll please.... £1162.90. A total of 23 collectors bravely faced the local residents and out of the 60 roads allocated to us, 22 were actually covered. The total from the House to House campaign was £924.70 and the rest (£238.20) came from the Church seats. A good proportion of the envelopes had been filled in, meaning that about an extra £110 can be reclaimed from the Government. *Geoffrey Redman*

## Christian Aid

We believe in life before death



*Geoffrey with the week's collection*

*(Continued from page 12)*

that no SIL team was coming to help them, decided to take matters into their own hands and is trying to get organised to teach literacy classes, produce Teke literature, etc., with minimal oversight from SIL! We praise God for this, since we have prayed for years for more local initiative and ownership.]

### Plans for the coming year:

- in March we are holding a training course for those interested in becoming Bible translators (or are already involved in the task)! We expect to receive people from a number of different languages.

- in May we will receive a Wycliffe member from Cameroon who is coming for 3 months to set up our linguistics library again, and help out generally.

- In June, our Congo director and his

wife will leave for a two year furlough in USA, leaving just my colleague Andrea and myself in Brazzaville, and Jean-Pierre & Alison Mary in the coastal town of Pointe Noire.

- in July also, our co-worker Roch plans to move back to his village to start up Mboshi literacy classes in the area. Andrea will hopefully spend three months with him there, to help get things started.

- In August I plan to come to UK for about three months! It's possible that friends from Streatham will come to visit in August and accompany me home. My Mum would also like to visit me, perhaps at the end of the year.

### Any other matters:

Praise be to the Lord, to God our Saviour, who daily bears our burdens! (Ps68:19)

*Signed: Ruth Chatfield*

# THE STORY OF AN OUTCAST

Chirthanakallu Eeranna is my name. Chirthanakallu is my native village. But the village doesn't seem to want my people or me. Because we are Dalits, the untouchables.

It was two or three years before my marriage that we heard about this new religion. At the weekly market we heard stories about how Dalits from various villages began embracing the Church. We didn't know much about Jesus or his teaching. What was important to us Dalits was that the new religion treated us as people and not as untouchables. This was more than we ever hoped for in this lifetime. So at Chirthanakallu, my father, mother and the other 17 Dalit families became Christians.

Yet the thing which did not change was the way the larger community in the village treated us. Whether we joined the Church or remained as an appendage to the Hindu religion, we are still what we are - the untouchables.

When I was a young man I heard about Gaddam Thayappa. Thayappa is from the nearby village which hosts a weekly market and where the government offices are. During moonlit nights, a visitor from the village would tell us all about Thayappa's struggles to defend the Dalits. Whatever the case - caste discrimination, an assault on a Dalit, rape of a Dalit girl, encroachment of a Dalit farmer's land by an upper-caste member, or bias towards a landlord by a government official - Thayappa would stand in solidarity with the Dalit victims and fight for their rights.

It was on my wedding day that I was drawn into the Dalit struggle. At the end of the marriage ceremony, there was the usual procession of bride and groom through the main street in the village. As the procession reached the centre of the village, the elders stopped us point-blank and asked us to go back. In all the excitement we

forgot that ours was the first Christian wedding in the village and we gave no thought as to how they would react to this breach of tradition.

I can't explain the shame and humiliation I suffered at that moment, especially in the presence of my new wife. Now I was motivated to take up the issues facing my people in the village. I met Thayappa who encouraged me to take up the drinking water problem - for the entire village, there was only one well. And it was in the upper caste area. There was an invisible line around it, which our women could not cross. They sometimes spent hours waiting for an upper caste person to come and grudgingly fill their pots. I mobilised a few young men and we dug a well in one of our own lands, not far from the village. God was gracious unto us, and we struck sweet water at 10 feet.

## Open rebellion

The village elders saw our defiance as an open rebellion, and plotted to kill me. As providence would have it, the district superintendent of police heard my story and assigned an inspector and four constables to protect me. They followed me everywhere. The upper castes found they had to provide food and meet all sorts of demands from the police. After six months, an honorable

peace was negotiated between the upper castes in the village and us, the Dalits.

Now age is catching up with me, but I still have the same fighting spirit. Yet I am downcast with many unanswered questions concerning the Church we embraced so enthusiastically 50 years ago. Why does the hope and sense of worth the Church tries to instill in us have no bearing upon the wider community in our village?

Does even my church believe that nothing good can come out of the Dalits? Is that why our names are considered unworthy and we are given Christian names like George and

Charles? What hurts the most is that, when we were waging liberation struggles with the upper castes for 20 long years seeking to affirm the values and the teachings of Jesus, the Church chose to remain a silent spectator. The risks we undertook got no recognition from the Church.

Yet we love Jesus and his Church. We believe that some day, the Church will recognise us as a community with many talents, treasures and vibrant testimonies of faith - faith which will enrich the Church herself.



*A Dalit collecting cow-dung In a village for fuel and house construction in Guntur-District, Andhra Pradesh.. Dalits usually do the most menial jobs.*

**Reproduced from Issue 19 of 'Inside Out' with kind permission of CWM**

## CHRISTIAN HOUSE EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP (CHEF )



Karakorum, Sunnyfield Lane  
Up Hatherley, Cheltenham GL51 6JE

Tel. 01242-521886 Fax. 01242-694929

E-mail [peterchef@aol.com](mailto:peterchef@aol.com)

[www.thisengland.co.uk/pw.htm](http://www.thisengland.co.uk/pw.htm)

Do you wish you could enjoy a family holiday but cannot afford it? Have you ever thought about a weekend break but shuddered at the prices quoted in the media? Have you ever dreamed about an extra holiday? Have you ever wondered about exchanging your home with another Christian family?

With the CHRISTIAN HOUSE EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP (CHEF for short) you can now easily fulfill all your ambitions. It's safe and simple!

CHEF has a UK membership of about 400, of whom more than one third also join the International section which has close links to a similar organisation in Europe, and which is also expanding into North America.

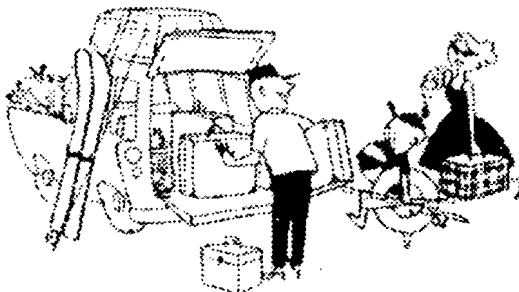
Approximately 200 foreign addresses are usually available, making a grand total of over 600. Apart from a small membership subscription for the address lists, (which are published twice a year - early December and March) no money changes hands and homes are exchanged by mutual agreement based on Christian trust.

If you would like further details entirely without obligation then please contact Peter Worsley at the above address. Peter is a retired teacher now working as a full-time journalist and will answer any queries after he has sent you a comprehensive written package through the post.

The organisation was begun by a Christian minister and his wife in 1976, and Peter, who was an early member of the scheme, took over in 1980 when they appealed for a successor.

Full guidelines are issued once you join the scheme and Peter is always available to advise first-timers or those who need advice on traveling abroad.

You have absolutely nothing to lose and everything to gain, including protection for your home and possessions whilst you are away on holiday.





### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Women's Guild	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Emmaus (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The July CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 1st July. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or computer disk) to the Editor by Sunday 17th June. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material yourself.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

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

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 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.

### WELCOME Editors

June 3, 10, 17, 24	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334
July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
August 5, 12, 19, 26	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568



### **Worthing Area Team Ministry**

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our Team web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.

# The CHRONICLE

July/August 2001

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

*A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry*



**Junior Church  
Anniversary  
10 June 2001**





## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

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

Team Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - Friday rest day

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

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

Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

Church Secretary: Mrs 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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Sheila Gooderham

15 Harvey Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS

Telephone: 01903 506452

Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-

St Andrew's: Mr Jack Croy 01903 770689

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## 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.

# *The* CHRONICLE

No. 556

July/August 2001

## Contents:

- 2      **from The Manse ....**    Rev Margaret Ashby
- Our Church -**
- 3      Handbook amendments  
      A link with the past  
      Hayward House
- 5      Women's Guild
- Out and About**
- 4      Team Barbecue  
      Churches in the Park
- 5-6    Burrswood—Christian Ministry for Healthcare
- 7      Worthing Churches Homeless project
- 8-9    **for your Diary ...**    
- 10-11    **Sussex West District Report**
- 12-14    **A month in the life of ...**  
      - World Church & Mission Group
- 15-16    **On the 'worth' of Illness**

Future issues of *The* CHRONICLE starting in September will be available on the last Sunday of the previous month, and the closing date for contributions will be the second Sunday of the previous month. This corresponds with other Churches in the Worthing Area Team and simplifies the copying of articles to and from other magazines. Editor





Dear Friends

This afternoon, as I am writing this letter, the sun is shining and at last it seems that summer is here. I hope that it is still with us by the time you are reading these words!

In the Worthing Team at the moment we are discussing all sorts of possibilities to do with outreach, youth work, pastoral work, visiting and the coming together of the Team in all the churches. As with many people in society today, we seem to be getting ever busier and the possibility of running round in circles seems to become ever more likely. Some of us, though, especially those who are not so well, may find our difficulties lie in the other direction. Life seems tedious with few new ideas or experiences to cheer us up. Looking towards our Christian faith we see that Jesus did not suffer from either a lack of time or too much of it. What can we learn from him about how we spend our days?

Jesus spent just three years from his baptism to his ascension teaching men and women what they needed to know to be able to follow him. From the experience of those men and women, from their understanding and their faith in their Saviour Christianity spread throughout the world, to all the corners of the earth. Despite such a short time of ministry, though, Jesus was always ready to stop and listen to people who were ill or in trouble of any kind. Even on his final journey to Jerusalem Jesus stopped to heal blind Bartimaeus. How did he balance his time so effectively?

Firstly, of course, Jesus focussed completely and utterly on God and how to bring people to him. He knew that he had enough time for his ministry but no time for anything else, no distractions or diversions. Doing the will of God was the only task to be attempted each day and it took all his energy and drive to do it. Secondly, Jesus knew that he had to spend time with his Father every day in order to gather the resources, the strength and the perseverance to do his will. In the gospels we often read that Jesus went into the hills to pray. We realize that he spent time in stillness and prayer for long periods each day or during each night. So it is that we learn, whether we have too little time or too much of it, that the answer to our difficulties is quite simply to spend some time in stillness with God every day.

When we try to spend time with God it often seems that all kinds of distractions and diversions come crowding in. Some of these can be important but unless we can carve some time out of each day to spend quietly with God then we're not going to be able to receive the resources he is waiting to give us. Quietness and stillness are difficult to find in our mobile phone, instant communication society today and yet they are vital to our mental and spiritual health.

How about trying, during the long, warm days of summer, to spend time in stillness and quietness? There is no complicated method. Just sit and relax and let the world around you, the flowers, the trees, the sky lead you into thinking about God and the wonderful world in which we live. You'll notice a difference if you do this regularly and whether time is too short or too long you will find new strength and new life.

With love and blessings to you all, *Margaret*

## Handbook Amendment

**Death:** Daphne Leighton 16 June 2001

We pray for the peace in the hearts of all those who knew and loved Daphne.

## A link with the past

On the day of the May A.D.A. meeting I was told that some people were looking around the church grounds and as I 'belong' here I was sent out to see if I could help them - and how delighted I was to do so. It transpired that the lady, Mrs Mary Richards, was the granddaughter of the Rev F J H Humphrey who was Minister of Church here between 1942 and 1947 during the Elm Grove School days. Her son and his wife were with her and were so interested in seeing the development of the Church

that their Great Grandfather had been an early part of. I was able to show them around the Church and Mr Humphrey's name on the brass plaque in the Vestibule. The following day I was able to send them a copy of the little booklet "The History of Goring URC" and I have had a lovely letter in reply.

I hope that sometime soon they will come again and perhaps join us in a Service. What a wonderful link with the past. !!

*Doreen Norris*

## Hagward House

As most of you will know, Hayward House is there to provide secure comfortable accommodation for elderly people.

We are a registered charity, and the house is managed by a voluntary committee of members of the church.

At present we have two vacant flatlets, and we would like to see them occupied again. If anyone would like information or would like to look at the flatlets I would be happy to help them.

*Bobby Hitchin. Hon. Sec'y*

Congratulations



David

Wilma & Matthew Smith with their son, David on the occasion of his marriage to Joanne at St Andrew's Parish Church, Tarring on Saturday 16th June. Many will know that David 'grew up' in this Church, attending Junior Church and Youth Club.

## The Team Barbecue Saturday 14 July 4.00pm

The Team Barbecue will be held on Saturday 14 July from 4.00pm-7.00pm on the green at the bottom of Aldsworth Avenue.

### ACTIVITIES:

- **It's a knockout** for the children-all ages. Competing for a Challenge Cup.
- **Treasure Hunt** All to take part up till 5.30pm, when we will eat.

**After the barbeque** - a gentle game of rounders !

Tickets £1.50 per person £4.00 per family available from Doreen or Sheila.

Please support this Team Event and if anyone has a Barbecue and willing to do some cooking please let one of us know as each Church has been asked to provide a cook.

*We pray for a fine evening but if wet, hopefully in Goring URC.*

— Keep an eye on Welcome for any update of plans —

## Churches in the Park Saturday 28 July 12.00noon

Saturday 28th July 12noon-5.00pm in Steyne Gardens, during the Sea Front Fayre

This year all three Worthing URC churches are involved with a stall for information and outreach, games and contests for children and adults. We will need quite a bit of help so do hope that some will come along for an hour or so during the afternoon. Please tell me beforehand

As last year, there will be a free barbecue for all who come. Soft drinks will also be available. There will be live music and dance, balloons, face painting—and lots more.

It's a great way of letting the town know that being a Christian IS FUN !!!

Please do support this Churches Together in Worthing event.

*Doreen Norris*

## Tuesday Fellowship - (nee Women's Guild)

Yes,- we have changed our name so that we can embrace men into our Fellowship. We give a cordial welcome to all men and ladies to join us at our first meeting on Tuesday, 4th September at 2.30 pm in the Church Hall.

May I also remind you of our Strawberry Tea on Tuesday, 10th July, again in the Church Hall at 2.30 p.m. which will include a Bring and Buy Table. All the afternoon's proceeds are in aid of the 'Chestnut Tree House' appeal.

At our first meeting in September we will have an up-to-date talk on the Chestnut Tree House appeal when we will hand over a cheque from two years' collections for this project.

*Joan Burrage*

## Southern Province: Healing Ministry Day at Burrswood: 7th June 2001

Burrswood Christian Centre for Health & Healing at Groomsbridge near Tunbridge Wells is a place of beauty and calm - a place of prayer and healing.

It was established as a Christian healing centre in 1948 by the late Dorothy Kerin who was herself healed by God and who in response answered His call to heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful and bring faith to the faithless. Here staff work together for the healing of the whole person Body Soul and Mind. The doctor works with the chaplain and together they work with the nurses, the counsellors and the physiotherapists, engaging in discussion and in prayer for each of their patients. There is room for up to 35 in-patients, about 600 in a year. There is no surgery but patients come for minor procedures, post operative care, respite care, review of medication,

counselling, or physiotherapy; many are day patients. All come with dis-ease.

I arrived at 10.00 and was immediately welcomed by Des Colchin our URC Development Officer. Refreshments were served as we arrived, there were about thirty in the group. At 10.30 Rev. Delia Bond, URC, introduced Rev Steve Clark, chaplain (and later Dr. Paul Worthely) who spoke about Burrswood, its vision, history, and aims, and who told stories of those who had found faith and healing through its ministry. We were then invited to join the congregation for the healing service where many went forward for the laying on of hands.

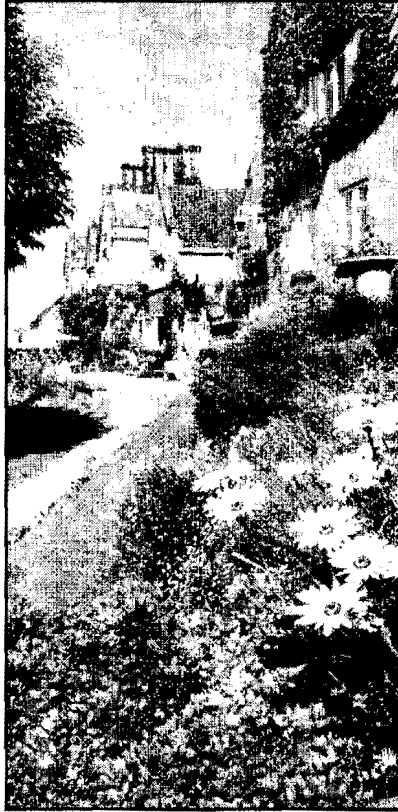
The church service is liturgical, and Dorothy Kerin, who loved all things Italian, decorated it with beautiful items, but people of all faiths or of no faith are equally welcomed. There are four



healing services held in the church each week, open to the public as well as to those staying at Burrswood.

After the service there was time to browse in the bookshop before taking lunch in the conference room.

Some braved the still chilly spring breeze to eat outside on the balcony, - a delicious meal of jacket potatoes, fillings and salad prepared by the Burrswood staff. This was the time to meet others who had journeyed here from around the province. I spent time with new friends from Broadstairs and St Mary Cray. Prior to the afternoon session we were shown a video of the work and witness of Burrswood, and then the Rev. Michael Fulljames addressed us on the subject of the Healing Ministry. 'What are our expectations?' 'What is the miracle?' It is 'Harmony within God's calling', or 'Jesus meeting you at the point of your need', or 'it is the restoration - of the possibility - of fulfilling - the purpose - for which - you were



created.' Mr Fulljames went on to ask "The Healing Ministry; where do we begin?" and said that every church which includes prayers for the sick is exercising the Ministry of Healing, whether in public worship, in prayer groups or as individuals. He encouraged us to capitalise on prayer to obtain the guidance of the Holy Spirit. There was a time for questions before a final cup of tea, and then a quick second visit to the bookshop to purchase "A Time To Heal- a Handbook for the Development of Good Practice in the Healing ministry", (the shortened version), produced by a working party set up by the House of Bishops to review the Ministry of Healing (Church of England), published 2000. Please ask if you would like to borrow it. It was a lovely day and like many others visitors before us we came away with a renewed sense of peace and hope.

*Hilary Redman*



**Many of you will have heard of WORTHING CHURCHES HOMELESS PROJECTS, but how much do you actually know about us? We are a charity whose purpose is to provide:**

- a room for the night
- Food
- Clothing
- Christian love and care
- help to rebuild lives
- help to overcome drink and drug misuse

- to all those in need, regardless of gender, race, colour, religion, sexual orientation, nationality or ethnic origin, educational status or disability. So, if you can truthfully say that you cannot spare an hour or two once in a while (that could be every week, fortnight, month or even year - it's entirely up to you), then you need read no further. However, if your conscience is pricking just a fraction, please do consider giving a little (or a lot!) of time to help those less fortunate. There are tasks for every ability, skill and talent, and your generosity will be greatly appreciated and extremely worthwhile. Many of you will know that our Stepping Stones Project had to leave its current location at Frazer Lodge by mid May, and we now know that we must raise an extra £80,000 to secure a permanent site. We need to have this amount as soon as possible.

If you feel that a frequent commitment would be impossible for you, perhaps you might consider joining in one of our 'one-off' events:

- Spring Clean Day - Saturday 14 July
- Sponsored Abseil - Sunday 5 August
- Flag Day - Saturday 25 August.

We are also looking for someone to be a WCHP 'contact' for the Church. This would be someone who could publicise our events and encourage church members to volunteer, participate and/or donate time, goods or money to WCHP, and generally to raise awareness of our presence.

For more information, please contact Helen Knox, on 07712 800401



Sun  
**1**

8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
6.00pm CTG Evening Worship at St Richard's C of E

Thu 5 From 9.30am Day of Prayer

Sun  
**8**

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

Tue 10 2.30pm Women's Guild ( Tuesday Fellowship ) Strawberry Tea  
7.30pm Inside Out Church No.3

Thu 12 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 14 4.00pm Team Barbecue on the green, bottom of Aldsworth Avenue  
-7.00pm

Sun  
**15**

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

Sat 21 Youth Weekend at Coldwaltham

Sun  
**22**

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

Tue 24 7.30pm Inside Out Church No.4

Thu 26 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sat 28 12.00noon Churches in the Park. Steyne Gardens

Sun  
**29**

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

Tue 31 7.30pm Inside Out Church No 5



Thu 2 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Mon 6  
-Fri -10

Asbestos removal in the Church Hall



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

12th - Last day for  
September Chronicle  
material



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



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

September Chronicle  
available today, 26 August



## Looking ahead into September...

- 4 Sep Women's Guild (Tuesday Fellowship)  
Start of new session
- 6 Sep Day of Prayer
- 13 Sep Elder's Meeting
- 15 Sep Anniversary Concert



More information about LOGOS in  
London and leaflet, please see notice  
board in Main Hall



## Sussex West District Report

### Sussex West District Meeting held on June 21<sup>st</sup> 2001 at Cleremont URC, part of the Brighton Group

The meeting was opened by one of the Ministers of the Brighton Group, Rev Graeme Allen reading from Galations chapter 6. He developed his message to Council centring on the theme of 'Christians working together for the common good.'

#### Personalia & Apologies

Council welcomed Rev David Helyar, Moderator for the Southern Province, and Rev Frank Jones of Bognor URC who were both attending their last Sussex West meeting before they retire. Council wished them both every blessing. Congratulations and a certificate was given to Mrs Daryl Sinclair who has completed a Methodist training course qualifying her as a tutor, enabling her to help others run courses. Mr. Paul Redman was welcomed as the new District Youth Secretary. Mr Ian Chisnell joined the meeting as the new County Ecumenical Officer. Mr. Simon Holden is to undertake the TLS course. Mr Das Conradie was also present, he being the new DEME (District Evangelism & Mission Enabler), so far working mostly in East Sussex. He expressed the hope that through prayer the churches will understand the context in which they find themselves. A welcome was extended to Mr. Jack Croy who attended on behalf of

Mrs Trina Hopper, the District representative for St Andrew's Rustington.

Apologies were received from Mr. Ian Chalmers, District representative for St Columba's, and Rev. Ian Cramb, the Methodist Ecumenical Officer.

The Minutes of the last meeting were signed.

There was one matter arising: The results of the survey undertaken at the last meeting "What is a District Council?" showing how well, or not, District is meeting its remit.

#### Executive report

The Women's panel has met for the last time. Thanks were given to those who had worked within the panel over the years.

The Secretary made known the availability of 'a presentation on deployment' which he hopes to give throughout the District. One presentation had already been given, and drew comments about the negative position that we are in, here in Sussex West. The question was asked, 'How do we go forward?' The reply came that we, that is those in the churches, are 'The District', it is we who need to resolve the situation in which we find ourselves. There are just two candidates starting at Westminster College, and two at Mansfield College in September 2001.

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Continued from page 10)*

Those who wish to follow the proceedings at General Assembly this year will be able to do so daily, by way of the World Wide Web. Representatives to Assembly will be available to speak to church meetings on their return.

### Finance & Property

The Committee, having reviewed the applications for grants from Goring URC recommended that Council support these applications and the policy being adopted by the Goring church. These applications being in consideration of expenses incurred both at the church and at the manse, the result of Quinquennial surveys recently undertaken. This recommendation was upheld.

Churches who have received money from the New Growth Fund were asked to give presentations of how their projects were developing. We heard from Goring URC Little Fishes Playgroup, The Alpha courses held at Hounsom URC, and the Lunch Club at Lewes Road URC.

### Pastoral Care

Council received the reports from consultations at Pulborough and St. Ninian's URCs.

Chichester Baptist Church will 'link' with Bosham URC through Mr. Ron Scriven although he has now retired as Pastor there. He will continue as Treasurer. Mr John Gunning Pastor of East Wittering URC will exercise oversight of Bosham until Chichester Baptist Church can fulfil their plans to

plant a Church within the Bosham fellowship.

Sompting URC would like to seek membership of the Worthing Area Team. Rev. Jenny Martin retires next year.

Rev. Frank Jones of Bognor and St. Ninian's URCs retires in July. We are invited to his farewell tea party on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 3.30 pm.

Council was asked to declare a vacancy at Christchurch Chichester as Rev. Leslie Judd leaves in September 2002.

### Ecumenical

Mr. Ian Chisnell addressed Council with a clear message. 'Where the churches work together, then comes revival.'

### Youth & children's work

Mr Paul West reminded Council of forthcoming activities.

### World Church

Mrs Nancy Welch drew attention to the latest news from the Partnership between Southern Province and the Church in Rayalaseema in India. There is an urgent need for money in order that the hospital's operating theatre can be re-opened. The Southern Synod has set an initial target of £50,000 to be raised for priorities in the Rayalaseema Diocese, to reach India within the next 12 - 18 months.

These notes are necessarily brief, but if you would like to see the papers with fuller details, please do not hesitate to ask.

*Hilary Redman*

# A Month in the Life of ...

## World Church & Mission Group

THE WORLD CHURCH & MISSION GROUP has for its objective: prayer, activity and fund raising to increase the sense of the need for the taking of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ not only overseas but also within our own land. The objective also includes the helping of those in need, especially the needs of under developed countries and promoting those needs within our Church. To attain this objective, our Church supports at present:-

COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION of which the URC is one of the Partners.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY, Margaret Butcher; CHRISTIAN AID, Geoffrey Redman; TEAR FUND, Gaynor Anderson Easey; LEPROSY MISSION, Bobby Hitchin; WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS - RUTH CHATFIELD, Pheniah Taylor; and GHANA, Monica Leal.

Other objectives - The Ukraine, Living Hope Ministries, M.A. Fellowship, The Paraclete Mission receive Financial support as and when our Budget allows (Budget for 2001 is £206). In the event of natural disasters, Funds are usually obtained either from our own efforts or by retiring collections. Not all requests for financial help can be met. However, as a Mission Group, we offer Prayerful support and would continue with our Prayers of Material and Spiritual ways to meet the needs as they arise.

CHAIR: Geoffrey Dean , Pheniah Taylor

MINUTE SECRETARY: Barbara Popplestone - produces the minutes at each meeting in an efficient and diligent manner and is an invaluable contribution to the success of the meetings.

AUDREY STEWART: pray she will soon be restored to better health and be part of the Group enabling her to continue her interest in the work of Mission as she has done for many years.

*Pheniah Taylor*

### CHRISTIAN AID REPRESENTATIVE

There isn't much involved in this job for most of the year apart from the bi-monthly Mission Group meetings and the Worthing Area Christian Aid meetings. The real effort comes around the Appeal Week in May drumming up support and organising the House-to-House Collections. When the collection bags come back, all the envelopes have to be opened and the money counted. A record is kept of who collected what and how much money came from signed envelopes and unsigned envelopes. The signed envelopes have to be sent off to Head Office (but only where the amount is greater than 50p). Finally, all the monies are paid into the main HSBC account. More information, please speak to *Geoffrey Redman*.

## BIBLE SOCIETY(BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

The B.S. is part of a fellowship of 137 affiliated Societies and offices which work to translate and distribute the Scriptures in more that 200 countries around the World.

As your representative at GURC., it is my privilege to attend Committee meetings with other members of the Worthing Action Group on your behalf. There we decide, under God's guidance, the best way to raise funds and to stimulate the interest of the various churches in the area.

The B.S. relies on the support of churches and individuals to maintain the supply of subsidised Scriptures and to keep pace with the many selections and portions that are often used for free distributions.

The tasks of translation and distribution are on-going and very costly. Work is progressing on producing Braille, audio and video Scriptures and the B.S also co-operates with local Christian radio stations whenever possible.

Thank you again to those who by their prayers and practical support assist in this vital work.

*Margaret Butcher*

## WORK IN AFRICA GHANA

Our church is in contact with two parishes in Ghana and I am the person who writes to them. Right at the moment we are looking forward to hearing again from the Hope Presbyterian Church in Assin Nsuta/ Assin Foso. This is the congregation which kindly presented G.U.R.C. with some beautiful embroidered stoles on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of our church.

Recently we have received correspondence more often from the Rev. Gyan-Nkrumah who in the past worked for the Hope Church, but now works at Ehiamenkyene where he hopes to be able to raise enough funds

to start building a chapel big enough for all the congregation and a manse. Ehiamenkyene is a small village "out in the sticks" and the people are very poor - there is no electricity or running water and the minister and his family on occasions are given food to help them. I have therefore written to the Secretary for International Relations of the U.R.C. asking him whether he might know of a congregation that would like to "partner" or "twin" with the African parish and in the process financially support them. I am still waiting for an answer.

Why do I do this? Because I consider myself fortunate to live in a country where life is a lot easier than in many parts of the world and where there is water, electricity and very little hunger.

*Monika Leal*



## LEPROSY MISSION

Some of us in the Church give money to eradicate this awful disease. Below is an extract from a recent letter I received from the Leprosy Mission.

*"This year we would like to share our vision of turning our patients into Partners - partners in the fight against leprosy, and in the fellowship of our Lord. **Patients to Partners**, our theme for 2001, is not a dream, it is already happening. Over the next twelve months T.L.M. is likely to detect and treat some 50,000 leprosy sufferers. They will become living symbols of Christ's healing power, witnesses to the fact that leprosy is curable and need not be feared. They will become partners in our work."*

If you are interested in supporting this work or would like more information please contact - *Bobby Hitchin.*

**TEARFUND** — an evangelical Christian development and relief charity working through local partners (organisations such as churches) to bring help and hope to communities in need around the world. Not only do they raise funds and send their Disaster Response Team to many emergency situations (earthquakes, floods etc) but also they support groups and individuals all around the world. They work to tackle the causes and effects of poverty and to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the poor.

TEARCRAFT is a part of TEARFUND. They buy products made by locals or they sometimes help set people up in business by purchasing tools, or provide locations or training. They produce a catalogue of the items produced so that you and I can buy the products and directly help these people. The important thing is that they get a fair price for their work and so can live and thrive on their wages.

As a rep I do get a lot of post from them, highlighting current issues and injustices across the world. They produce a quarterly magazine and prayer diary that is passed around the committee and

placed on the table at the back of the church. I receive literature from the Global Action Network that encourages more action (writing to the MP/ companies/marching and protesting etc) as well as prayer support.

TRAIDCRAFT is a supplier of fair-trade foods, gift and clothing items. There has been a rep for several years selling goods purchased at church meetings. However, with the decline of interest, payment of post and packing, and bulk ordering only, it has been unprofitable to run and so these items will not be available within the church. On the extremely brighter note, most supermarkets stock fair-trade items such as tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate and bananas. Although these items are more expensive than mass produced goods where the workers are in a vicious circle of poverty, bad working conditions, lack of education etc; you know your money will reach these people and they can set up schools, hospitals and community programs.

Anybody interested in finding out more about these groups, getting the magazine, helping with prayer support please contact -

*Gaynor Anderson-Easey.*

## On the "worth" of Illness

**Most of us have to face sickness at one time or another. It is often seen as a threatening shadow, which persistently dogs many lives.**

It generally means pain, it often brings poverty and it always brings anxiety.

It sometimes appears as one of those phenomena that make us doubt the omnipotence of the goodness of God. There are times in some lives when there seems no ray of hope, but the majority of illnesses remind me of a picture of the great angel of Death stretching out his arm to open a door, casting a great shadow before him and one can see nothing but dark form and dark shadow, but a great light is shining behind Death's figure, and when he passes the light will remain. It is the same with sickness!

There came a night when one was so wearied and fevered, that we lay and watched the small candle flame of our existence and wondered quite calmly whether that flame would be burning in the morning. Too tired to be frightened we felt a stirring of wonder, an almost excited curiosity as to what tomorrow would bring. We desired to stay awake and "see all" but Sleep the half-brother of Death came to us and covered us.

As the grey day dawned we knew that we were going to live in spite of our vague desire that Life should be over and done with. For days, it seemed, we

lay weak and unresisting. Sometimes we looked almost blindly into space and asked God, "Are you sure you haven't made a mistake?" Gradually the days became fuller, slowly we accepted that we had been kept back for an undisclosed task - that what God willed would be, and we learned to say 'Amen'. Even more slowly we began to realize some of the compensations of our sickness. Friends called - and even if they wanted to be made to feel better about our illness, well, that was OK. Even in people we had never known we saw an opportunity to make ourselves useful, to say to them "Tell me about it," and as they told their cares so our continued existence was justified.

In a peculiar way we became as a child again, eager to please, more than eager to help with others woes, easily pleased yet so easily wearied. We hardly knew why but we were simply filled with joy. We had been far down the Valley of the Shadow, we had become a cloud and heat and cold, light and dark were meaningless terms, but we had been moving along into the valley. There was no fear, it was a little lonely, uncertain and awesome, but there was a live curiosity about where we were going - until we discovered that the journey was a round trip and we came back to where we were. We learned to praise God and to seek His will for us.

*(Continued on page 16)*

*(Continued from page 15)*

Then the doctors said that our illness was merely a symptom of deeper trouble and that more surgery would be necessary and even then there was the "other alternative". How difficult they found our attitude, how unwillingly they deferred to our decision that no more surgery would be accepted. We got up again and rebelled at the life we had to lead, we grumbled at inaction, we rubbed ourselves raw against the rules we had to follow, we argued with God! Slowly our health grew better but we often thought with longing of the peace we had known. With our new health there came an awareness that our life was not for us alone, that we were living because it was ordained so. We had no choice! Our quietly steady drift away from this life had to cease; we had to stay.

It is difficult to explain the way in which we came to see that our enforced inactivity was not God's punishment but Ffis method, Ffis instrument. It was a long and weary time before we saw, dimly at first, the worth of being ill. Gradually we saw how crowded our life had been, how little time there had been for meditation, for prayer, for slow steady thought. Now we had all the tonic there was, we could think or not think; we learned that we could sink into times of no thought, which was akin to placing our hand in the hand of God. We learned to listen to the silence of nothingness. In this time of inaction we found that the lesson of humility,

begun in hospital with its inevitably intrusive handling, that lesson was being reinforced, and we could face our future or no-future hand in hand with God, learning to know ourself and our true size in the vastness of God's creation. Even though we pathetically missed many chances we did learn something of the habit of patience, of obeying the instruction, "Be still, and know that I am God."

We became interested in life because He wanted us to live. Daily the fight against the old lethargy continued. Daily, even hourly, we felt ready to face life again and to take up the work given to us. As we settled into this routine of looking forward the sunsets were more colourful, autumn colours were the brightest they had ever been, even the dying year smelled sweet. At last we were able to take up our task and, as we turned our back on the place where we had been for so long, the place that had taught us so much, we felt that our illness, with all its loss, with all its suffering and disappointment, was yet utterly worthwhile! We had learned many things, we had been made more aware of the freshness and beauty of the world, and we had tasted somewhat of the depth of human love and even more of the wonder of the love of God. In the end it seemed that we had learned that God sometimes needs to strike a man down to teach him that He is Love.

*A church member of -  
the Worthing Area Team.*

### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Tuesday Fellowship (née Women's Guild)	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Emmanuel (Bible Study) Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The September CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 26th August. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or computer disk) to the Editor by Sunday 12th August. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material yourself.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman  
Telephone: 01903 260568  
Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867  
E-Mail: [thechronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:thechronicle@gurc.org.uk)

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 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
August 5, 12, 19, 26	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568
September 2, 9	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
September 16, 23, 30	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568



**An evening in aid of the**

**Bible Society**

**Wednesday 18 July 2001 7.30pm**

**Holy Trinity Church, Shelley Road, Worthing**

**The evening will include a performance of extracts from the**

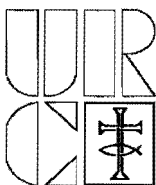
**musical about Mary Jones - Greater than Gold**

**and**

**Worthing Action Group Annual General Meeting**

\*\*\*\*\*

**There will be a Bring & Buy and a Cake Stall**



**Worthing Area Team Ministry**

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our Team web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.

# The \_\_\_\_\_ CHRONICLE

September 2001

---

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

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

---



## General Assembly at York July 2001



## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

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

Team Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - Friday rest day

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

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

Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

Church Secretary: Mrs 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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Sheila Gooderham

15 Harvey Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS

Telephone: 01903 506452

### Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-

St Andrew's: Mr Jack Crox 01903 770689

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## 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.

# The CHRONICLE

No. 557

September 2001

## Contents:

- 2 from The Manse .... Rev Norman Croft

### Our Church -

- 3 Handbook amendments  
 Church Flowers  
 4 Your Favourite Hymns  
 Church Family Group  
 5 Embroidery  
 6 Church Finances Newsletter  
 7 Strawberry Tea  
 8 September Day of Prayer  
 9 Harvest Festival

### Out and About

- 8 Team Barbecue  
 12 Retirement of Rev David Helyar  
 14 General Assembly

- 10-11 for your Diary ...



### World Church & Mission

- 17 Presbyterian Church in Taiwan  
 18 Letter from the Congo, Ruth's Chat





*from The Manse ... Rev Norman Croft*

Harvest is now in full swing in the fields and farms that surround us here in West Sussex. Everything is being gathered in before the first frosts herald the beginning of Autumn. But of course harvesting has been going on for the past few months. The 'pick your own' farms opened in June encouraging all of us to pick far more than we can possibly eat, especially when it comes to my weakness, strawberries! At one time you could only pick them from the middle of June to the middle of July but the farm that Jo and I use have strawberries available from opening day to closing day. This abundance, not only of strawberries, but of everything else as well, is due to the hard work and dedication of the staff, not only in the growing season but throughout the year. The ground has to be cleared, dug, fertilised, and re-seeded every year to remain in good growing condition. Every year, if you like, they have to spring clean their fields to make sure that they remain in the best possible condition.

There is in the Old Testament a king named Josiah who discovered that personal 'spring cleaning' is part of keeping our spiritual lives in good condition. He reigned from about 640 BC to 609 BC and his story can be found in 2 Kings ch 22 and 23.

He was only about 3 when he became king, and 26 when he decided that the

money given to the temple ought to be used for repairs, which were badly needed. There must have been a clean up inside for the high priest reported that he had found the 'book of the law', which more or less, forms the first five books of our Bibles today. Just think there was just one copy and it had not been read, or even seen for many many years! No wonder the country was in a mess.



He reported the discovery to the secretary, who told the king, who asked him to read it. They had not taken any notice of, God's commandments for generations! The cause of all their trouble was clear! The king sent his officers, including the high priest, to ask God what was to be done. Huldah, a prophetess, told them that God's punishment would certainly fall on them, but would be postponed because of the national repentance that the king led. The country embarked on a period of 'spring cleaning'. Josiah had the book read publicly and ordered all idols and articles of astrology to be removed from the temple and burned and deposed all who sacrificed to idols and the stars. He stopped the sacrifice of children and banned all mediums and sorcerers. He ordered the Passover and other feasts, to be revived after centuries of neglect. Just like our own 'pick your own' farmers he did away with the old and corrupt

*(Continued on page 16)*



## Handbook of amendments

**New Members:** Welcome to Mr & Mrs A Ralph who were received back into membership on Sun. 1st July.  
10 Cuckfield Crescent, Worthing. BN13 2ED  
Tel: 690714 E-Mail: [gralec@talk21.com](mailto:gralec@talk21.com)

*Alec & Grace Ralph wish to express their appreciation of the warm welcome given to them on their return to Goring and their thanks for the lovely flowers.*

**Deaths:** Mr John Mott 5 August 01  
Miss Dorothy Dudley 12 August 01

*We remember those who have died, and pray for their friends and relatives.*



Congratulations to Gaynor and Alan on the birth of another daughter, Daisy Phoebe.  
A sister for Elizabeth, Belinda and David.

## Thanksgiving

On the 2nd of July a Service of thanksgiving for the life and witness of Mrs Joyce Young was held at the Worthing Crematorium. Unfortunately I was unable to attend, but I remember Joyce and her husband Ted for the love and service they gave to members of our Church. So many elderly folk were given transport and many enjoyed weeks of love, rest and hospitality at the Young's house. Who remembers picnic teas at their beach hut? Joyce will be remembered for the love she gave out to others and we think of her family which she loved dearly and, in return, the love they gave to her.

*Joan Burrage*

## Church Flowers

I am sure we all enjoy the beauty of the floral arrangements displayed in the church each week. These displays are the work of just a few helpers willing to use their time and talents (some hitherto unexplored), the flowers being provided by generous folk happy to contribute towards the cost. There is a flower list on the notice board in the vestibule and if you feel you would like to help in any way towards this service of worship do please add your name to the list. This is a happy way of celebrating a special anniversary or in remembrance of a loved one. Pheniah Taylor holds the key to the finances, or have a word with me if you wish.

*Audrey Gerlach*

*Our Church***Your Favourite Hymns**

At the request of one of our members, the Church Meeting has considered and agreed to making a box available in the vestibule for requests for favourite hymns and their tunes, for a trial period.

Whilst the selection of worship material should remain the prerogative of those leading worship, the ministers will bear these requests in mind and use their discretion in choosing hymns.

It is necessary to remind everyone that, unfortunately, the copyright regulations are very stringent these days, and photocopying material other than using the hymnbooks is both costly and liable to fines if copyright is infringed.

*Church Family Group*

**Leprosy  
Coffee  
Morning**

ooOoo

The amount raised at the Leprosy Coffee Morning on 23 June 01, plus donations amounted to £194.28.

Many thanks to all who supported this event.

ooOoo

**Church Family Group**

At the present time the Church Family Group is a group of five representatives from the young people's organisations, Tuesday Fellowship, a Church Member and two serving Elders. We meet about four times a year with additional meetings should any situation arise needing special attention.

Our brief is to oversee the smooth running of the various activities within the church. These include all House Bible Study Groups, Prayer Groups, Tuesday Fellowship, the Ark, Monday Club, Junior Church, Choir and the Crèche, together with pastoral visiting of the sick and elderly.

You will see from these brief details that although responsibility for each activity is contained within its own group we are in fact one church family responsible and caring for the well being and nurturing of one another.

*Audrey Gerlach*

## **What does a talk by Rev Andrew Sellwood and an Embroidery Magazine have in common?**

You may well ask!!

Recently I was reading about a church in Reading who made the most amazing hanging for their church in the said embroidery magazine. It led me to think about our own church community and whether we could take on such a project.

The Reading project finished up at 27' x 4' and 650 people, men, women and children, were involved. A little big for us perhaps but it demonstrates what can be done if we all put our hearts and minds into something. My prayer at the time was 'Could we achieve something like this?'

Where does Andrew come in? The very next week was the united Team service at St Columba's and he spoke of unity in our team and any ideas we may have to make this happen would

be considered. We then heard an amazing sermon about just that 'Unity'. Was this my answer from God to sew the seed of the idea?

Yes it was so here goes -

The whole thing will be made up of 2" squares which will form the overall picture.

I suggest we have a go first in our own family and later maybe the rest of the Team to make some sort of hangings or banners that we can all be involved in. I have put together a design board, which will be on display at the back of the church; and in October we will arrange a workshop for all to see and have

a go. You do not need to be able to sew to be involved there are all sorts of other methods that will be employed.

Do you think we can do this to the Glory of God?

*Caroline Hibbs*



**Church Finances Newsletter****Summer 2001****Budget Up-date**

In the spring newsletter I advised you of the need to increase offertory giving by 29%, and encouraged you to pray about your response to that need.

The position to date is that only 27% of you have increased your weekly giving since the newsletter, and have done so generously. These members have increased their giving by 32%. One of our smallest givers increased their giving by 50% - from £1 to £1.50 per week; another by 100% - from £5 to £10 per week; while one couple have increased their giving by 30% - to £260 per month. The smallest increase was 17% - from £5 to £6. As I say these members have responded most generously and we pray God's blessing on their willing response to the needs of His Church here in Goring.

However, overall the offertory has increased by only 6.55% which means, in budget terms, we are well short of the giving necessary to avoid a deficit between income and expenditure. Therefore, if you have not already done so, can I once again urge you to come before the Lord in prayer on this truly important matter? As I said in the spring newsletter, if we all increase our giving by just £1.35 per week on average we can meet our budget, which is essential if we are to meet the challenges ahead.

The main challenge facing us at present, and for the next few years, is raising sufficient money to meet the costs arising out of surveys to both Church and Manse. We have scheduled the bulk of the work, which needs to be done, over 4 years (2001 to 2004) and this totals some £60,000. The final bit of work, the re-roofing of the Church itself is scheduled to take place in 2005/06. Our financial plan to meet this timetable is based on two key factors:

1. Ensuring that income exceeds expenditure each year
2. A series of annual Gift Days and meeting our target for each one

The first Gift Day has been set for 28 October this year and the target has been set at £10,000.

To some this may appear ambitious, but I would remind you that when we held a Gift Day for a new heating system, we raised £17,000. The Lord willing (and guiding us through prayer) we will meet both the weekly giving and Gift Day targets.

If we don't our schedule of work, and therefore, the fabric of our Church and Manse will suffer and yet more costs will be incurred.

These are difficult times for our Church and our financial situation and

*(Continued at foot of following page)*





## Thanks to Line Dancers

The Church is most grateful and thanks members of the Line Dancing Group for their generous gift of £180.00. The group held a special dance in July to raise money in aid of the urgent work required on the Church roof.

The Line Dancing Group meet on Tuesday evenings in the main church hall.

## Strawberry Tea

Can you remember what the weather was like on the morning of Tuesday the 10th of July? Of course not many folk can but our Strawberry Pickers could not go on to the fields to gather fruit because of the very wet morning.

However, thanks to a local Greengrocer we were able to buy luscious

strawberries for our Church tea that day. The afternoon was sunny and those of you who were there cast your minds back to the good entertainment, super food and wonderful fellowship we shared. Our thanks must go to the members, visitors and, of course, the behind the scene ladies who catered for our needs.

After the deduction of expenses the sum of £141.71 will be added to the monies

in hand for the Chestnut Tree House Appeal.

The cheque will be handed over at the first meeting of the Fellowship when the new session begins on Tuesday the 4th of September at 2.30 p.m. All men and women will be welcome on that day.

*Joan Burrage*



*( Finance Newsletter Continued from previous page )*

plans are complex. If you need more information please speak to me and I will do my best to provide clear answers. In the meantime please:

**PRAY** - and consider how the Lord wants you to

**RESPOND** - and help your Elders, and Fabric and Finance Groups to continue to

**PROCLAIM GOD'S PRESENCE** - here in Goring for many years to come.

*Matthew Smith, Treasurer*

*Our Church*

## September Day of Prayer for Team Shelley Rd : St Columba's : Goring : St Andrew's

To all Members in the -

- Worthing Area Team.

I understand that at the June Meeting of the Worthing Area Team, it was agreed to have a time of prayer for the future growth and unity of the Team.

The Goring Elders suggest that we set aside part of our September day of prayer for this.

This will be held at Goring on Thursday 6th September.

We usually have a Communion service at 10.30am led by Norman

Croft and suggest we meet following this service from 11am - 12 noon.

It would be good if as many people as possible can share in this time together, both in the communion service and for the following hour.

If these times are not convenient, the church is open from 9-12 and 2-4 where small groups of people will be present.

There is no need to reply, just come when you can and share in the blessing of united prayer.

*Robin Bradley*

## Seeds for Africa Appeal Coffee Morning Saturday 29th September

The Junior Church are holding a Coffee Morning and Car Wash at the Church on Saturday 29th September between 10.00am and 12.00noon  
Donations please.

\*\*\* Please bring your dirty car \*\*\*

# Team Barbecue



*Were the sausages better than the burgers, or were the burgers better than the sausages? Perhaps it was the tomato ketchup !!!*

A good number of people from the four Team Churches met together on Goring Green on Saturday afternoon 14th July for a barbecue. It was truly a 'Team Event' with helping hands cooking and serving, joining in the playing of games and just having the time to sit and chat!

Congratulations to the young people from St Andrew's who won the Knockout competition taking the Challenge Cup home with them.

Thank you to all those who played a part in any way with the organisation.

# Harvest Festival

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2001

In addition to the usual gifts of food to be offered at the service, the giving this year will include Christian books and Bibles. These will be sent overseas to areas where economic crises and currency restrictions result in a famine of the Word and will concentrate on Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean.

The books will be forwarded through Book Aid, a charity who will sell off unsuitable books in the U.K. to support their work. The following are not required:- magazines, Daily (dated) Bible notes, or school books.

A box will be placed in the vestibule nearer the date and we pray our harvest of books will help towards a harvest of souls.

*Geoffrey Dean*

For your Diary in 2001...



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

Tue 4 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship

Thu 6 From 9.30am Worthing Area Team Ministry Day of Prayer - See top of page 8



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

9th - Last day for  
October Chronicle material

Thu 13 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 15 7.00pm 9.15pm Anniversary Evening of Music in the Church. See page 13

#### 40th Anniversary of present Church building



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
 10.30am Morning Worship and service of Thanksgiving  
 6.30pm CTG Evening Worship at Maybridge Christian Fellowship



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

Thu 27 7.30pm Church Meeting

Sat 29 10.00am-12noon Junior Church 'Seeds for Africa Appeal'  
 - Coffee Morning & Car Cleaning.



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





Thu 4 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Wed 10 Walk Thru' The Old Testament at New Life Church Durrington



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

14th - Last day for  
November Chronicle  
material



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

Sat 27 TBA Jumble Sale



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

Gift Day

Wed 31 Fun Day at St Andrew's URC

Looking ahead . . . . .



11 November Remembrance Sunday





## Retirement of Rev David Helgar

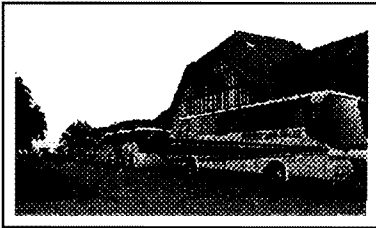
On Saturday 28th July, about 35 folk from the United Reformed Churches in Worthing, Sompting, Bognor Regis, Littlehampton and Chichester went by coach to attend the retirement celebration of the Rev David and Mrs Mary Helyar at Worth Abbey.

At 3.00pm on a very hot afternoon David and Mary Helyar entered a packed auditorium and proceeded towards the platform receiving a tumultuous welcome.



*"... a packed auditorium"*

The chairman then produced that 'Red Book' made famous on television by Michael Aspel. We were then to enjoy some 45 minutes as one by one we listened



*Coaches wait to take us back home to our respective Districts*

to those who recounted David's life from birth to the present day. The afternoon concluded with a time of worship made notable firstly by a humorous address by the inimitable Rev Peter McIntosh and secondly by contributions by the Ghanaian Family Service Choir who presented David and Mary with a gown and stole much to the enjoyment of all present. A cheque for £10000 from the Churches in the Province was also presented.

*Ken Irving*

### A thank you from David

Dear Friends,

In the last few days Mary and I have been quite overwhelmed by the innumerable greetings and good wishes which we have received from across the Synod and beyond. The climax came last Saturday with the Celebration at Worth Abbey, an occasion which has left us

feeling very humbled but with our heads still in the clouds!

It was a heart-warming experience to be surrounded by so many friends from the churches, to have one surprise follow after another, and to receive such a magnificent cheque from you all. Please convey to the members of your congregation our gratitude for the contribution which they made.

*(Continued on following page)*

# Anniversary Evening of Music

Celebrating 40 years of the opening of this  
Church building in September 1961

In this Church on  
Saturday 15th September  
from 7.00pm to approx 9.15pm

•

A selection of music for all including:-

Well known organ pieces

English madrigals

Cello music

Opera

•

from John Dowland to Richard Rogers via  
Mozart - there should be something for everyone

Retiring collection in aid of Church Funds

*(Continued from previous page)*

*- a thank you from David Helyar*

As I have said on many occasions, it has been a great privilege and joy to have spent the last 14 years of my ministry as moderator of this Synod. Always I have received far more than I have been able to give, and I remain ever grateful to God for the care and fellowship which I have experienced among you.

Now we move on to a new stage of life, but with many precious memories to take with us. You will remain in our thoughts and prayers, and we pray God's richest blessing on all your future life in the service of Jesus Christ. With heartfelt thanks and all good wishes.

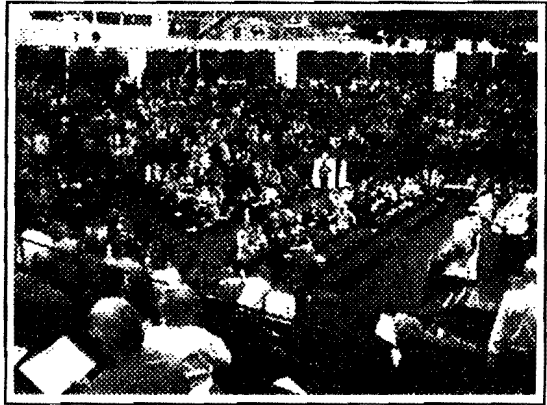
*David Helyar*

# The United Reformed

Monday 16th to

By Hilary and Graham Redman

We drove to the University of York to attend our first United Reformed Church General Assembly, not quite knowing what was before us - oh yes, we've seen the reports in 'Reform' magazine and The Book of Reports which follows Assembly, but it's not at all the same as going! We were joined by Margaret and Norman Ashby, Ian and Jennifer Chalmers, Simon Franklin, Ken Lynch and Desmond Curry from Sussex West District.



At General Assembly representatives from all local Districts of the United Reformed Church meet together every year. About 500-600 of us!

A Moderator is appointed at each Assembly to serve as Chairperson of the Church for one year - this year the Rev Elizabeth Welch. (Her mother Mrs Nancy Welch of Bognor URC was affectionately dubbed 'The Queen Mum'!)

We arrived at the University in time for the opening service and Holy Communion at 2.30 pm before starting the official business about an hour later.

The outgoing Moderator Rev Bill Mahood gave an address about his work and travels during his year of office. Rev. Elizabeth Welch also spoke to us on "Streams of Living Water" her theme

for Assembly and for this year.

By 6.30 pm that evening we were all ready for our meal. All the food prepared by the University restaurant staff was excellent.

On Monday evening we found we were free to wander and explore the college grounds and lake side, disturbing some of the ducks who had tucked their heads under their wings for the night.

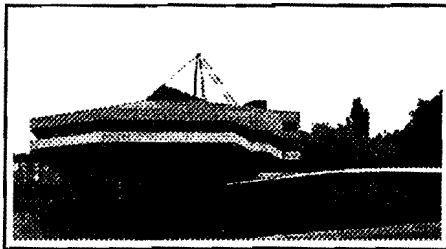
The sessions each day began at 9.00 am with worship beautifully led by the Chaplain Rev Flora Winfield, followed by lively Bible study with buzz groups on the theme. The business usually ended at 6.00 pm. The sessions were spent looking at the resolutions put to Assembly and representatives were given ample opportunity to speak both for and against each one.

# Church General Assembly

## Thursday 19th July

We also received visitors from across the world, inter-denominationally, and from other faiths. Each day the agenda reminded us of our ecumenical responsibilities. The United Reformed Church is highly regarded for the way its visitors are given the right to speak and vote at its Assembly. We also heard from members of FURY (Fellowship of United Reformed Youth) who also add a special dimension to the work of the Church. The reps from Sussex West District took ½ day turns to write notes about the proceedings so did not have to attend everything. This gave us time to stretch our legs, browse in the book shop and to chat with other people.

On Tuesday evening we chose from a number of 'Fringe meetings' covering many aspects of church life. Hilary went to Rev. John Titlow's "Cell Church" study, Graham, Desmond and Norman to "Communication and Editorial" led by the editor of 'Reform', Margaret to "Youth and children's work training".



*The Conference Hall, University of York*

On Wednesday evening there was a party for Rev Tony Burnham as he retires from office as General Secretary. He received a cheque gathered from all the churches and a special office chair - all decked out with pretty ribbons! He is fond of jazz, so a band came to play the evening out.

The induction of Rev David Cornick as the new General Secretary took place during Thursday morning worship, and later, Rev John Waller was elected to become next year's Moderator of General Assembly.

By Thursday afternoon time was running out and we were behind schedule. Due to finish by 3.00 pm a vote was cast to extend the business to 3.40 pm, although a significant number of members had to leave at 3.00 pm. Closing worship took us to 4.00 pm and by this time it was apparent that the University was getting ready for its next conference on 'Dyslexia'. As you know this year's Assembly was at York, last year it was in London, next year in St. Andrew's. As one Scottish Representative put it 'We're moving in the right direction'!! All in all we had a remarkable time, coming home tired but inspired.

Look out for the book of reports when it becomes available in the Autumn and catch up with Assembly news on the URC website [www.urc.org.uk](http://www.urc.org.uk).

---

*Miscellaneous*


---

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

and started again, renewing, revitalising and replanting. He replaced pagan rites with worship of the one true God. In fact the people's faith was 'born again'.

We would do well this harvest time to take a lesson from king Josiah ( and the 'pick your own' farmers ) and make sure that the rotten and corrupt has not crept into our own lives and have a need to plough up what is there now and re-plant.

At a time when we give thanks to God for all his goodness to us let us make sure that we continue to be ready to play our part in God's growing Kingdom on earth. We need to make sure that we are ready to plant the seed of faith in people's hearts, we are ready to nurture it, fertilise it, and ready to help them have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Norman Croft*

### Rowland Singers June Concert

On the 23rd June a few of us enjoyed an evening of entertainment given by the Rowland Singers in our Church.

The programme consisted of light music, many of the songs taken from musical shows. Those of us who were there enjoyed the evening immensely, and congratulations must go to Jackie, Helen and Valerie, not forgetting the singers, for their usual high standard performance. £65.30 was added to our Church finances.

*Joan Burrage*

*Just for a laugh!*

Post Office clerk to man posting a parcel containing a Bible. "Anything in it breakable Sir?"

Man: "Only the Ten Commandments !!!"



## Presbyterian Church in Taiwan - the facts

Taiwan's economy has soared over the past few decades, leading to much wealth, but also pollution, inequality, poverty and social breakdown. This has prompted the Presbyterian Church, the most socially progressive denomination in Taiwan, to action.

### Prayer Requests

- For the Reading the Bible with New Eyes campaign: to challenge members to apply scriptural truths to their lives and to the modern world.
- For the Neighbourhood Mission campaign: the community projects, the mass media work (medical institutions are cooperating to establish a radio network), and the prison ministry.
- For aborigine concerns: to promote the teaching and use of their mother tongue and ethnic culture, for the aborigine ministry in urban communities, and for aborigine employment.
- For justice and peace in the Asia-Pacific region: Taiwan's right to determine its own future and to work for peaceful coexistence among the nations in the area.
- For international relations: breaking Taiwan's isolation in the international community.

### National Concerns

- Re-entry to membership of the Unit
- Recognition of Taiwan as a sovereign state and to end international isolation.
- Relations with China (1996 preside military threats).
- Widening gap between rich and poor and pay disparities between men and women.
- Child prostitution (an estimated 60,000 – 200,000 children involved).
- Drug traffickers using Taiwan as a safe haven.
- Taiwan has the highest divorce rate in Asia.
- Air, water and land pollution is severe.
- Helping people most affected by 1999 earthquake.

*Taken from Inside Out by kind permission of CWM*

# RUTH's CHAT

## (from the FIELD)

No.26

Brazzaville, Congo

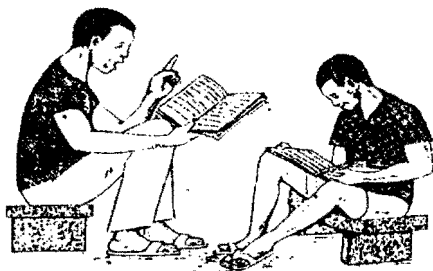
July 2001

HELLO!

*What are some GOOD things which have been happening in recent months?*

\* Our Congolese co-worker **Guy Kouarata** has finally been granted his **MA in linguistics** ! He is currently helping develop a standardized orthography for another congolese language.

\* Our other co-worker, **Roch Beapami** is proving himself to be a **good, patient teacher**! He has been heading up classes for small groups wanting to learn to read and write in Mboshi.



\* Our linguistics and biblical reference **library** has just reopened it's doors to University students ! It has been closed since the war, but **Margaret Dobson**, a colleague visiting from Cameroon, has brought order out of the chaos which resulted from the war pillaging.

\* A young man called **Médard** has got together some Christians from different churches in his village to launch the «**Centre for Literacy and Bible Translation in the Teke Language.**» They have started literacy classes in Teke (although they have barely mastered the orthography themselves !) and they are enthusiastic about Bible translation.

\* Just when I started having serious **tooth-ache**, I discovered that a **top-notch French dentist** was back in town ☺!

*If I stop and think, there are plenty of things to give thanks to God for. And of course, he wants us to give thanks to him in ALL circumstances (1 Thess 5 v18)... even in the struggles...*

~ A **former co-worker** is trying to **sue us**! (But the Lord has provided us with a retired Christian magistrate who is acting for us!)

~ It turned out to be **not the right time** for Roch and Andrea to go to the Mboshi-speaking area to launch literacy classes. We still need **more people** who will «own» the Mboshi work. People are often interested for a short time, but then their enthusiasm wears off...

~ We are encouraged by the **Teke project**, but Médard needs lots of **mentoring, support and advice**, to keep things on the right track ! He is trying to get support from Teke Christians in Brazzaville, as well as coordinate activities in the village.

~ There are days when **many people come by the office** wanting information, help or advice, so that it is almost impossible for Andrea and me to get any serious language work done ! We miss Cami & Larry Robbins, who are now back in the States for a couple of years.

~ We have a new **computer network** in the office, but it doesn't always do what Andrea and I think it should do!

(Are there bugs in it?)

### COMING UP...

The **SIL-CONGO** team - Jean-Pierre Mary (who now heads up the work within Congo), his wife Alison, Andrea and myself (yes, all four of us!) - will be meeting in Pointe Noire during the week of 23<sup>rd</sup> July to seek the Lord together and do some planning for the way ahead. Then I'll be back in Brazzaville, preparing to leave for England on 10<sup>th</sup> August !

**Thank you for your support and care for me during these past years in Congo ! May the Lord bless you and keep you !**

### PRAYER

- 1) *Please pray for me as I head back to England, for spiritual & physical refreshment and for meaningful times with family, churches and friends.*
- 2) *Please pray for the team remaining in Brazzaville :*
  - *Andrea will be carrying the responsibility for the day-to-day running of the office,*
  - assisted by our Congolese colleagues :*
    - *Roch and Guy (language work), - Lydie Madede (Receptionist/ Librarian),*
    - *Charles and Nelly Koumba (Centre Manager & Centre Hostess)*
- 3) *Please pray for Médard's spiritual and physical health, as he seeks to coordinate the Teke project and raise support for it.*
- 4) *Please pray for Jean-Pierre and Alison in Pointe Noire, in their many areas of ministry:*
  - translation, literacy, computing, training, parenting, church responsibilities, etc.*

*World Church & Mission***This is how my time in England is looking** (subject to change)...

- 11<sup>th</sup> August ..... I arrive bleary-eyed at **Heathrow** in the early morning.*
- Rest of August ..... Initial time with my **church in Streatham** & my family in **Worthing**. I start medical check-ups & finally get to be crowned (at the dentist!)*
- September ..... Mainly helping out at the **Wycliffe Centre, High Wycombe**.*
- October ..... Visiting friends & churches in various places.  
A week's holiday?*
- Early November ... Last minute purchases for return to Congo.*
- 9<sup>th</sup> November ..... Mum & I set off to **Heathrow** at an even earlier hour of the morning. (Mum hopes to spend 2-3 weeks with me in Congo !)*

*Ruth*

**P.S.** If you would like in future to receive this newsletter by e-mail, instead of hard copy, please let me know - either by sending me a quick e-mail or when you see me!

**Ruth Chatfield**

SIL-Congo, B.P. 1067, Brazzaville, CONGO

Internet: ruth\_chatfield@sil.org

**WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS****Horsleys Green, High Wycombe****Bucks HP14 3XL, ENGLAND****UK contact addresses: (11/8/01 - 9/11/01)****- c/o Miss Helena Hopiavaara, 90 Veronica Gardens, London SW16 5JS****(Tel: 020 8764 5106)****- c/o Mrs. Beryl Chatfield, 50 Reigate Road, Worthing BN11 5NE (Tel:****01903 248 313)**

### Weekday Activities

Monday Club	Monday Evenings
Tuesday Fellowship (née Women's Guild)	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The October CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 30th September. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or floppy disk) to the Editor by the second Sunday of the previous month, 9th September. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

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

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 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

September 2, 9	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 505177
September 16, 23, 30	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568
October 7, 14, 21, 28	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 506177
November 4, 11, 18, 25	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334





### Worthing Area Team Ministry

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our Team web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.

# The CHRONICLE

October 2001

*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

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

Team Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - Friday rest day

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

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

Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

Church Secretary: Mrs 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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Sheila Gooderham

15 Harvey Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS

Telephone: 01903 506452

Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-

St Andrew's: Mr Jack Croy 01903 770689

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## 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.

---

---

# *The* CHRONICLE

No. 558

October 2001

---

## Contents:

- 2      **Our Church -**  
      **Christian Bookshop**  
      **Marmalade**

- 4-5     **Christian Aid—Trade for Life**



- 6-7     **for your Diary ...**



- 8-9     **World Mission**  
      **The Forgotten Children**

- 10      **International Bible Reading Association**  
      **Books for sale**

- 11      **Letter from District Evangelism and Mission Enabler**  
      **United Reformed Church: Sussex East and West Districts**

- 12      **'Puppies for Sale' !**





### **Is there anybody there ? !!!**

Do you have any news or photographs of Church events including Organisations, Committees, Groups, Worthing Area Team, CTG, CTW, District or Junior Church that you could share with our readers?

If you have either now or maybe in the future please remember to write to the Chronicle Editor, preferably by E-Mail.

Graham Redman  
Editor: *The* CHRONICLE



**Win Marriott**

On behalf of my dear friend Win Marriott, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all, for the wonderful support you've given us during Win's continuing illness. She so appreciated the beautiful flowers, cards, telephone calls, and especially the prayers offered for her comfort.

Please continue to pray for her.

*Cath Findlay*

**Christian Bookshop**

I would like to give you a reminder that if you want to buy any thing from the Christian Bookshop, the church gets a percentage back on all purchases, except videos and computer material.

Please let me have details of what you want and I will order and collect them for you.

*Sheila Gooderham*

**Musical Evening**

About 60 people came along to the church on Saturday evening 15th September to enjoy an evening of music in celebration of 40 years since the opening of the present Church building. £178.80 was raised in aid of Church funds.

*Graham Redman*

**'A' Level & GCSE Results**

Vera and Ken Irving have received wonderful news of their Grandsons in Suffolk.

Daniel Irving passed his 'A' Level exams and has been accepted by the University of East Anglia, where he will be reading Law.

His younger brother, Jonathan took his GCSEs and attained 11 'A' Grades of which 10 were with Star. He was top of his school – Stowupland High School. They are very proud of them both.

**Marmalade**

Please, please, please don't give me any more jam jars, we are overflowing, but please, please, please buy the marmalade.

One thing depends on the other. Thank you to those who have supplied me with jars and to those who I have supplied with marmalade, especially Bett who satisfies the marmalade craving at Goring First School and beyond almost every half and full term. Just ring Worthing 506452 and place your order.

*Sheila Gooderham*

---

Christian Aid

---

*At the last church meeting Geoffrey Redman introduced Christian Aid's new campaign - Trade for Life. Here is a quick update.*



Christian Aid would like as many people as possible to support their campaign by taking some form of action - either through prayer or by joining in an organised event, or simply by sending a letter to the headquarters of a political party.

The scandal of mass poverty in God's world is all due to unfair trade. If you decide that you would like to take part in the campaign to help change this situation and call for a revision of the rules of international trade, then please sign an Action Pledge and send it off to your local MP. These are available at the back of the church. Pick one up today!

*Christian Aid* believe that "campaigning for change is vital in an unjust world.

Only by changing the unfair structures that create and perpetuate poverty can we hope to make a real difference to people's lives".

This latest campaign, *Trade for Life*, is aimed at tackling the problem of unfair trade at an international level. International trade is worth a startling \$10 million every minute so it is very important that it is managed the right way.

Billions of people could be saved from poverty, just by having fairer trade rules.

---

**Other ways to take action**

Come to the Carnival! Christian Aid is getting together with other charities to host the Trade Justice Carnival in London on Saturday 3 November 2001. If you'd like more info. please contact me- see details below.

Become a Christian Aid campaigner. You'll receive Christian Aid's *Action request* newsletter by mail four to six times a year, with campaigns news and the chance to take simple and effective campaign actions. For more info. about this, please contact me.

If you have internet access, you can join the *Email Action List*. Details on Christian Aid's website ([www.christian-aid.org.uk](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk))

---

*Christian Aid*

---

The following is a suggested letter composed by Christian Aid for you to send to political parties. It can be sent just as it is, or it can be edited as you wish, or you can replace it with your own text. For

those of you with internet access, if you visit Christian Aid's website, it is possible to simply sign this letter and send it to eleven major political parties simultaneously at the click of a button!!

### *Trade for Life*

*'As we enter a new millennium, we must make trade work for the poor.'*  
Kofi Annan, UN Secretary

*International trade is worth \$10 million a minute. Managed the right way it has the potential to help release billions of people from poverty. But the rules that govern trade are written by powerful companies and countries to further their own interests.*

*As a result the world's poor are getting poorer. I believe that this is a scandal.*

*The new Trade Justice Movement is a coalition of mainstream groups and organisations including churches and charities, committed to making trade work for the poor.*

*We're calling for the rules that govern international trade to be re-written. These new rules must:*

- be decided by a fair and transparent process*
- have poverty eradication as a key objective*
- include global systems to regulate the activities of large transnational companies.*

*I urge you to ask your party officials and members to take a lead in placing a major review of international trade rules on the political agenda.*

*For more information about this campaign you're invited to contact Christian Aid on: 020 7523 2297 or visit:*

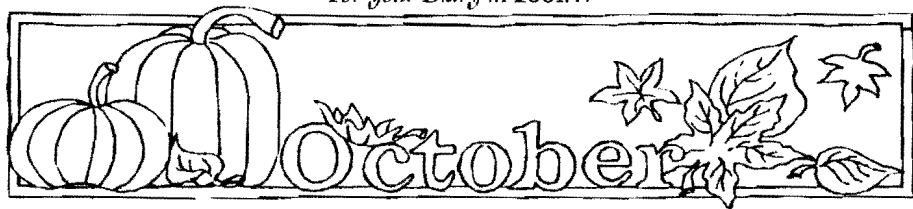
*[www.christian-aid.org.uk/campaign/trade/trade.htm](http://www.christian-aid.org.uk/campaign/trade/trade.htm)*

*Yours sincerely*

---

For more information, you can contact your Christian Aid representative, Geoffrey Redman, by telephone on 01903 260568 or by E-mail: [redskii@talk21.com](mailto:redskii@talk21.com)

For your Diary in 2001...



Tue 2 10.30am-12.30noon Discussion of Prayer & Revival at  
Hounsom Memorial URC, Hove. - see page 11  
2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'Water Wise'

Thur 4 From 9.30am Day of Prayer  
7.30pm Devotional Meeting for all Goring Elders.

**7** 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
6.00pm CTG Evening Worship at St Richard's C of E

Sat 13 Southern Synod at St Mary Cray

**14** 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Family Service  
6.00pm Evening Worship

14th - Last day for  
November Chronicle  
material

Tue 16 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'The Wire'

Thu 18 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

**21** 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.00pm Evening Worship

Sat 27 1.30pm Jumble Sale

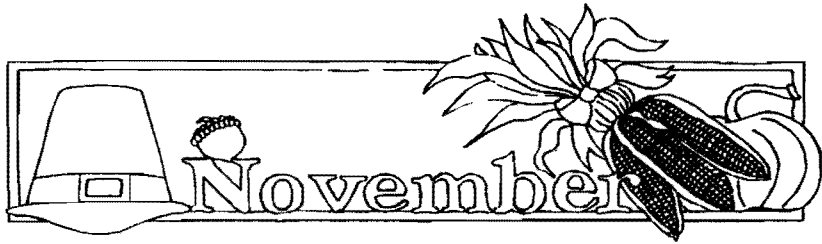
**28** 8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.00pm Evening Worship with Holy Communion

November Chronicle  
available today,  
28th October

Thur 25 7.30pm Church Meeting

Tue 30 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'Anniversary Service'

Wed 31 Fun Day at St Andrew's, Rustington



Thu 1 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Thur 8 7.30pm Elders' Meeting



Remembrance Sunday

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

11th - Last day for  
December/January  
Chronicle material

Tue 13 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'Brazil'



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



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

December/January  
Chronicle available  
today, 25th November

Tue 27 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'The Singalongs'

Thu 29 7.30pm Church Meeting



Looking ahead . . . . .

13 Dec

Tuesday Fellowship Christmas Service





*There are 10,000 children living on Jamaica's streets. How did they get there? First their fathers abandoned their mothers. Then their mothers abandoned them. The odds are they'll do the same for their own children - unless somebody breaks the circle. Nick Sireau discovers how the United Church is taking action.*

## The forgotten children

JAMAICA'S CHILDREN are hurting. The crisis in society is damaging their young lives. Many men are jobless or involved in crime, drugs and drink, and they refuse to take care of their children. They leave them to the women. The result is that some 10,000 children are left to fend for themselves on the street.

Occasionally, social services pick them up or the police catch some stealing and place them in one of the 50 orphanages on the island - such as Pringle home or Mount Olivet home run by the United Church.

These abandoned children may bear emotional scars for the rest of their lives. They grow up asking, "Why me? Why did my parents leave me? Why did they not love me?"

### Children become a burden

Sometimes, the mothers simply could not cope. The many teenage pregnancies mean that mothers are often too young to know how to care for children. Their own mothers are not much older and are too busy fending for themselves to take on the role of grandmother.

So the children become a burden, and the young mothers abandon them out of frustration. This can result in self-hatred and aggressive behaviour.

Sometimes, staff at the homes find a young girl ripping up her bed sheets or young boys fighting in a desperate attempt to get some attention.

But the hurt may be so strong that the children grow up just like their parents. They get into drugs, or prostitution, and then they abandon their children. It's a vicious circle.

Breaking this circle of hatred and abuse is not easy. Lorraine Patterson, the director of Pringle home, says: "Sometimes it takes years before the children tell us how they suffered in the past." It's hard to tell when they are feeling better.



*Lorraine Patterson, director of Pringle orphanage*

Even a small smile from a child may be a sign that some of the hurt has gone.

### **How can God let this happen?**

Building their faith in God is particularly slow. Telling children that God loves them has no effect when they have experienced pain and abuse most of their lives. He can't love them, they say, or he would never have let all this happen to them. Yet the staff believe that God can heal the children. They choose bible stories relevant to the children's lives and that show God's love, such as the one about the Prodigal Son in Luke 15. "The story shows them how God accepts them too, like the father accepted the Prodigal Son," says Pattemn. Other times they look at how Jesus blessed children, or used one child's lunch to feed thousands. "It encourages them to accept Jesus as their lord and Saviour."

Practical help is difficult, though. Half the homes money comes from the government. The rest comes from the United Church and overseas partner churches and individuals. Says James Cameron, a missionary from the Presbyterian Church of Ireland working with the church homes: "They get three good meals a day, a roof over their head, and care. But we rarely have enough to improve the infrastructure of the homes or to train staff. We only get through by the grace of God."



### **A new family**

In the long term, the church homes aim to place the children back in society. Staff work with the Ministry of Health to put some children in foster families. The goal is to make the placement as permanent as possible, giving the children a new family. Sometimes, staff work with government children's officers to reconcile children with their former families, although this can prove hard. Education and training is crucial for those that stay on so that they can find jobs when they leave the homes at 18. One young man did well at college and is now doing business studies. Another girl now has a job in the United Church's main office. Looking after the children is a tiring but rewarding job, says Patterson. It needs patience, kindness, tolerance and firmness. "By 7pm, after dinner, I sometimes think that the day's work is over," she says. "But it's not really over until the children get to bed. And then I just thank the Lord for taking us safely through another day."

*An extract from Council for World Mission's magazine 'Inside Out—July 2001', reproduced here with their kind permission.*

**IBRA International Bible Reading Association -**

2002 PUBLICATIONS - The time for ordering the following Literature will soon be upon us. Unless I have been advised of a cancellation, I shall place orders for our Subscribers as previously. Newcomers are most welcome to join.

Please let me know by the end of October which of the following Publications you may wish to order:-

Words for Today 2002	£5.00
Light for our Path 2002	£5.00
Large Print - Light for our Path 2002	£9.00
Finding our Way Together: Books 1,2,3, and 4	£6.50 each
The series - 4 books	£20.00
Everyday Prayers, More Everyday Prayers, Further Everyday Prayers	£5.50 each
Living Prayers for To-Day and More Living Prayers for To-Day	£12.50 each
Sharing God's Word 2002 (Previously Preachers' Hand-Book)	£5.50
The URC 2002 Pocket Diary — Colours available - Red, Black, Green, Blue or Insert. Leatherboard Organiser Cover ( Insert extra )	£4.45 £5.50
Prayer Hand-Book - Advent 2001 - 2002- 'KNEELERS' - Prayers from 3 Nations -	£2.75 each
The URC YEAR BOOK 2002 - A5 Perfect Bound	£10.25 each
Loose Leaf Binder and Contents -	£12.50
Contents only	£7.25
On Line to God - a Collection of original Prayers written by young people from many parts of the World and complimented by lively illustrations and activities - an ideal present for 7 - 12 year olds -	£4.50

.....

GOD RESTORES HIS PEOPLE - Ezekiel 47 v. 12. - Light for our Path.

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

Pheniah Taylor. Tel: 246523

36 Alexandra Road, Uckfield,  
East Sussex. TN225BE

Dear Church Leader

I want to invite everybody in the church to a discussion on Prayer and Revival on Tuesday 2 October from 10:30 to about 12:30 in Hounsom Memorial URC, Neville Avenue, Hove.

Rev. Joe Youngblood of Gloverville Baptist Church in South Carolina, USA and Mr. Francois Carr, director of the Revival Congress Movement in South Africa, are bringing a group to visit churches in Sussex from the 30th of September to the 4th of October. Their intention is to encourage churches in the UK to start braving for revival and church growth. Rev. Youngblood's church itself had been started as a prayer initiative and has grown to more than 800 people in a very short period of time. They have a real burden for revival in English churches and would like to help local churches in their prayer ministry as well, amongst others by sharing what God had been doing in their midst. They have also developed workshops on helping churches and people in their prayer ministries. These workshops will be extremely useful to churches and Christians.

The group is going to address groups, individuals, churches, prayer groups, etc on prayer and praying for revival specifically. After much thought about how we best could make use of them, I thought that it might be good to arrange a meeting for interested people in Sussex West to meet with this group on the 2nd of October at the mentioned venue. I would appreciate it if you could mention this discussion to people in your church and people from other churches who might be also interested in attending.

May God bless you and the church you serve.

Greetings in Christ

Sas Conradie District Evangelism and Mission Enabler

United Reformed Church: Sussex East and West Districts

## Puppies for Sale !!

A Storeowner was taking a sign above his door that read "Puppies for Sale" These signs have a way of attracting children. Soon a little boy appeared at the sign and asked, 'How much are you gonna sell those puppies for?'

The store owner replied, "Anywhere from \$30-\$50". The little boy reached into his pocket and pulled out some change." I have \$2.37, can I look at them?"

The storeowner smiled and whistled. Out of the kennel came his dog named lady, running down the aisle of his store followed by five little puppies. One puppy was lagging considerably behind. Immediately the little boy singled out the lagging, limping puppy. He asked, "What's wrong with that little dog?"

The man explained that when the puppy was born the vet said that this puppy had a bad hip socket and would limp for the rest of his life. The little boy got really excited and said "That's the puppy I want to buy!"

The replied "'No, you don't want to buy that little dog. If you really want him, I'll give him to you."

The little boy got upset. He looked straight into the man's eyes and said "I don't want you to give him to me.

He is worth every bit as much as the other dogs and I'll pay the full price. In fact, I will give you \$2.37 now and 50 Cents every month until I have him paid for.'

The man countered 'You really don't want to buy this puppy son. He is never gonna be able to run, jump and play like other puppies.'

The little boy reached down and rolled up his trouser leg to reveal a badly twisted, crippled left leg supported by a big metal brace. He looked up at the man and said, "Well, I don't run so well myself and the little puppy will need someone who understands.'

The man was now biting his bottom lip. Tears welled up in his eyes, he smiled and said, "Son, I hope and pray that each and every one of these puppies will have an owner such as you."

IN LIFE, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO YOU ARE, BUT WHETHER SOMEONE APPRECIATES YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE, ACCEPTS YOU AND LOVES YOU UNCONDITIONALLY. A REAL FRIEND IS ONE WHO WALKS IN WHEN THE REST OF THE WORLD WALKS AWAY.

*From Hayes (Kent) URC magazine*



### Weekday Activities

Tuesday Fellowship (nee Women's Guild)	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The November CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 28th October. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail or floppy disk) to the Editor by the second Sunday of the previous month, 14th September. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

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

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

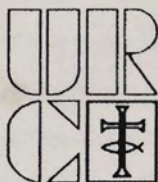
Proof Reading: Ron Jordan

Print Room Manager: Ken Woods. Telephone 01903 505177

*The Chronicle costs approximately 40p 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

October 7, 14, 21, 28	Ken Woods	Tel: 01903 506177
November 4, 11, 18, 25	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334
December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334



### Worthing Area Team Ministry

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our Team web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.

# The \_\_\_\_\_ CHRONICLE

November 2001

---

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

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

---



*Inside this month :*

- *The new Tuesday Fellowship*
- *Banner Workshop*
- *District & Synod Reports*
- *Who do you say I am ?*





## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

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

Team Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - Friday rest day  
 Rev Norman Croft (Part time) - Telephone 01903 715813 - Wednesday rest day  
 Rev Simon Franklin (Part time) - Telephone 01903 713 506 - Monday rest day  
 Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

### Church Secretary: Mrs 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 Representative for Goring: Mrs Sheila Gooderham

15 Harvey Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS

Telephone: 01903 506452

### Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-

St Andrew's: Mr Jack Croy 01903 770689

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- Family service on Second 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.

# *The* CHRONICLE

No. 559

November 2001

## Contents:

**From the Manse**    Rev Andrew Sellwood    2

### **Our Church**

Seeds for Africa appeal coffee morning.    3

Tuesday Fellowship.    4

Banner Workshop    6

Autumn Events    7

### **Diary Pages**



Dates for your diary    8 & 9

### **Out & About**

Letter from Ingatestone    10

Sussex West District Report    11

Southern Synod Report    12

South-facing Aspect    13

### **World Church & Mission**

Who do you say I am    14





For the last few weeks there has been heard in the surrounding streets the occasional loud retort of a firework, a reminder that Guy Fawkes night is once again upon us. Fireworks; like them or loathe them, lets look a little closer at what they represent.

The Banger; loud and short lived, when the ringing in the ears has subsided there is nothing to remember it; a bit of a waste of money, it doesn't really seem to do anything.

The Catherine wheel; looks good as it spins around sending sparks off in all directions, colourful and quite spectacular, it is pinned in one place and doesn't really go anywhere.

The Rocket; shoots up into the sky exploding with a bang or whistle, then a colourful shower of sparks falls to the ground. You can hear the crowd cheer in amazement.

It has been said that people in the church can be characterised by fire works.

A banger; some one who goes round making a big noise and upsetting everyone. "Then the peoples around them set out to discourage the people of Judah and make them afraid to go on building." (Ezr.4:4).

A Catherine wheel; good looking, they are seen to do a lot, people admire them but they just spin around getting nowhere fast and eventually bum out "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always

give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." (1 Cor. 15:58).

Then there is the rocket; heard and seen by many, although short lived, is well remembered, "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever." (Dan. 12:3). But the worse type of all is the damp squib. "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!" (Rev. 3:15-16) Shine for the Lord, don't be a damp squid!

I don't know what will be happening in the world when this letter is printed. Day by day new developments occur, but whatever is taking place there is one thing for sure.

When all around us is falling apart, God is there for us, amidst the hurting and suffering of humanity, God is there, because God is love. We have the promise, that in time, God will restore his suffering creation to himself. God has the power to change a tragedy into a triumph.

We need look no further than the cross for that example. Jesus defeated sin and death that day and gave us eternity and glory.

Psalm 136 encourages us to "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever."

*Yours in His service, Andrew*

# Member's Handbook

## Deaths:

Miss Ella Robertson on 12 September 2001 - a member and our representative to Churches Together in Worthing for many many years

Mr Vernon Craghill on 10 October 2001 - a member of this Church who took an active role in helping in the leading of our Youth Club during the 1980's.

Mr Wally Kimber on 16 October 2001 - a member and Elder of this Church.

*We give thanks for the lives of those passing into the fuller life and pray for the peace in the hearts of their families and friends.*

## New Book for 2001

The 2001 Members Handbook is now available at the back of the church, the information contained being correct as on 17th October. Additional copies can be obtained through Graham Redman. A 'Car' version with just the names, addresses and telephone numbers is also available upon request.

## *Seeds for Africa appeal car wash & coffee morning*

Anna, Elizabeth S,  
Elizabeth AE, Ruth,  
Belinda, Emma,  
Mark, Jonathan,  
Simon, Paul, James  
& David helped by  
Junior Church staff  
washed 11 cars on  
their Coffee morning  
in October.

Over £100 was raised



# Tuesday Fellowship

## 4 September

We commenced our Autumn Session on Tuesday, 4th September surprisingly encouraged by the attendance of 48 members. Our President, Mrs. Peggy Mott opened the meeting by welcoming all to the new session. The speaker was Miss Lesley-Anne Lloyd who gave us up-to-date information of the 'Chestnut Tree House Project'.

We were told that the site is ready and work should start on 25th October of this year. So far £1¼m had been donated but there is a long way to go before reaching the target of £5m. We were shown slides of other Hospices and we realised what wonderful work is being done in these places. A cheque for £500. was handed over to Lesley-Anne because, for the past two years 'The Chestnut Tree House Project' has been our project.



Peggy Mott on behalf of Tuesday Fellowship presents a cheque for £500 to Lesley-Anne Lloyd for the Chestnut Tree House appeal.

*Photo by Mick Canning ©  
Reproduced with kind permission of the Worthing Herald*

**18 September**

Our meeting on Tuesday, 18th September commenced, as always, with devotions in which the tragedy in the United States of America was mentioned. Then Rev. Norman Croft 'took over'. What on earth was 'Classical Gas'? We soon found out! Classical music advertising goods on a radio station. We had to name the piece of music which was played - name the composer and goods advertised by the music. We could have done with Geoffrey Redman at the meeting but some of our musical members identified the music - some composers but certainly not - Levi Jeans - Guinness and other commodities which the music introduced.

**2 October**

At our meeting on the 2nd of October we heard a representative of the Southern Water Board talk, as you can expect, on the vital commodity - WATER.

We were shown a film of Brighton of years ago and was told how impure the water was then and how over the years the improvement of the water system has given us the liquid that we use today. Recycled sludge is used on the soil and waste water is cleaned in treatment works which run under Brighton promenade and, of course, in other areas too.

One can go on guided tours of these works but it is advisable not to suffer from claustrophobia and to be able to climb a ladder, clamber through a manhole to surface! Tips for saving water were given and we were left with thankful hearts that we are able to have clean water at the turn of a tap.

By the time that the above goes into print we will have met on the 16<sup>th</sup> October.

On Tuesday the 30th of October, we will be holding the first Anniversary Service of the new Tuesday Fellowship and an invitation is extended to ladies and gentlemen to join us then. - *Joan Burrage*

# WebSite

**A Web site is being proposed for  
Goring United Reformed Church.**

If you have any concerns or questions of any nature, regarding the Church having a website or presence on the internet, you may be interested in coming along to a meeting on Tuesday 20 November at 2.30pm in the Harris Room. This will be an informal get together for those wishing to have a chat about it.

Other meetings for planning and content will be held in the new year, but in the meantime if you have any ideas or suggestions they will be most welcome.

*Graham Redman*

# Banner Workshop

*by Caroline Hibbs*

Thanks to all those who came to the workshop on Saturday 13th October. We enjoyed a good time of fellowship and over a cup of coffee made a very good start to our banner project. The banner will be on display most weeks for you to see its progress and perhaps be inspired to make a square yourself.

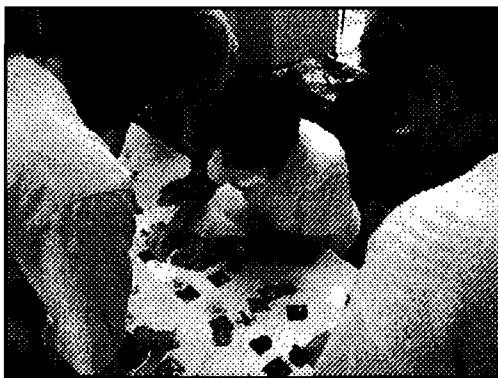


*Some of the band of helpers*

As you can see we are working in rainbow colours and would prefer each square to be made in shades of one colour rather than contrasting. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have and there will be pieces of fabric available for you in the hall after the service each week if you would like to add your contribution.

We need around 640 squares in all so we still have a long way to go. I will be at the sale on the 24<sup>th</sup> November with the banner for anyone who has made a square to attach it or even make one on the day. They do not have to be stitched so please do not be put off if you don't sew.

Thank you again -----



*Beginning the long task of sewing in the squares*



# Autumn Events

- Doreen Norris -

## Festive Autumn Market

**Saturday 24th November 10 am—12 noon**

Free Entrance. Coffee/Tea and Biscuits 50p

Stalls:- Cakes; Preserves; Groceries "Corner Shop"; Cards; Wrapping Paper; Stationery; New gifts; Toiletries; Jewellery; Guess the Weight of the cake; Competitions games etc for the children.

Our Banner project will be on show for people to add their squares to it.

As you can imagine lots of help will be needed, so all offers will be gratefully received, as will donations of New Gifts, Toiletries, non perishable Groceries for the stall. Cakes can come the night before or early on the day. Boxes will be placed in the Vestibule on three Sundays 4th, 11th, 18th November to receive your gifts and donations.

*Any Questions?? Any Offers?? Please phone me: 503783 Doreen Norris.*

## Christmas Lunch

By way of a change we are planning to put on a Christmas Lunch for church members and friends on Saturday 15th December which we hope will be a time of great fellowship.

The first thing we need to know is how many of you will come in order that we cater for the right number.

Tickets will be available but there will

have to be a limit placed on the number of people we are allowed, due to fire regulations. There will be a roast Christmas lunch (with trimmings) and a vegetarian alternative of course; please let me know if you would prefer this.

I look forward to hearing from you to say that you will be joining us.

There will be more details in the December Chronicle.

*Doreen Norris, 503783*

*Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2001...*



Thu 1 From 9.30am Day of Prayer

Sat 3 From 9.00am Working Party Day



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

Thur 8 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

### Remembrance Sunday



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

Tue 13 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'Brazil'

Thu 15 2.30pm Prayer & Praise

11th - Last day for  
December/January  
Chronicle material

\*NB the following  
Chronicle will be  
February issue.



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.30pm CTG Service at Bury Drive Methodist Church

Fri 23 2.00pm Kestro Market

Sat 24 10.00am—  
12.00noon Autumn Festive Market



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

Tue 27 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship. 'The Singalongs'

Thu 29 7.30pm Church Meeting

December/January  
Chronicle  
available today,  
25th November

Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2001...



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

Thur 6 From 9.30am Day of Prayer



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

Tue 11 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship Christmas Service

Thur 13 7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 15 Christmas Lunch



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



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Carol Service  
6.00pm Evening Worship

**Christmas  
Day**

10.30am Family Worship



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
No Evening Worship



## Looking ahead . . . . .

18-25 January Week of prayer for Christian unity  
20 January CTG Service at St Lawrence's C of E  
27 January February Chronicle available



*A letter received from friends from Ingatestone URC who were staying in Arundel and visited us during the weekend of 6/7 October.*

Following our return today to Chelmsford, we thought we would write to express our appreciation to yourselves and all your friends at Goring URC for the warm and friendly welcome given to us when we joined in worship yesterday.

We had particularly wanted to worship at a local URC if possible and we were fortunate in finding your church listed in 'Yellow pages' and consequently we came over on Saturday to look for it! Earlier on Saturday morning we had visited the parish church at Arundel but somehow the atmosphere did not seem quite right for us.

What we did not say at the time was that it was our 10th anniversary and we wanted to come to church to give thanks for our life together over this period.

Consequently we were delighted when we came to Goring, and made to feel both welcome and at home, especially when we discovered that Wilfred and his wife, Eileen had previously lived here in Great Baddow about ¼ mile from our own home, had worshipped at our local URC and also knew our minister Robert Canham at Ingatestone where we worship, who has just moved to a new pastorate in Lancaster.

We usually come to Arundel about once a year so hopefully we will come in 2002 and will return to share worship with you again if possible.

Yours sincerely

Chris and Angela Harvey

---

# Sussex West District Council

29 Members and 18 Visitors met at Littlehampton United Church on the 11th October. Revd Simon Franklin read a poem written after the terrorist attack last month in New York and in his prayers remembered our Assembly Moderator currently visiting the Church of North India. The President Revd Kenneth Lynch welcomed Revd Nigel Uden to his first meeting as Synod Moderator.

All churches were reminded to keep **Saturday June 15th 2002** free of local engagements as there would be a **District Day at Brighthelm**.

Some applications to Synod for grants for buildings were approved and Council rejoiced to hear that East Wittering were proposing to rebuild their church as the congregation had outgrown the 45 year old building.

All churches were asked to consider the proposal that we should seek a District Youth Worker, so that in January we could have an informed discussion with Howard Nurden.

The **Open Letter from the District Secretary**, which ALL members should see, was discussed. In considering this local churches should reflect on the following questions to focus their thoughts:

How should we change to address the challenge of the new Century?

What sort of witness does our church make to the local community?

Does the local community **need** our church and its buildings?

Does our worshipping community **need** our church and its buildings?

-----

Two days later **Southern Synod** met at St Mary Cray when attention was drawn to current shortage of candidates for ordination to the Ministry. There was an even more critical situation with our **Lay Preachers** who conduct at least a third of our services. The source of both is our local churches: our future is dependant on increasing the supply.

*Desmond Curry - District Secretary*



# Synod Report

The Southern Province was convened for the Autumn Synod at Temple church St Mary Cray on Saturday 13th October.

**Representatives and Ministers from most of 183 churches in the Province were present for this first meeting under the guidance of the new Provincial Moderator Rev Nigel Uden.**

We began our meeting with worship and Bible Study the latter led by Revd John Proctor, Director of New Testament Studies at Westminster College on the passage Mark 4 1-9, taking as his theme "Grain of Truth" - if you have ears to hear - this set the scene for the day.

The Rev Nigel Uden expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome he had been given since taking up office and thanked Synod for the new gown which was presented to him—he made reference to the new and exciting things to be achieved and urged us to go forward with courage and faith—Accepted practices were once new too and it was important to Enable and Encourage, to be realistic about job description, so that Ministers, Elders and laity are enthusiastic people about witnessing to the Word of God and not tired.

This led on to the main theme chosen for this Synod, "Ministry & Training—The theme was dealt with in three parts—Firstly a visual presentation Big Brother at Synod—Secondly Rev Peter Southcombe on Continuing Ministerial Training, when he reiterated the requirements for Post Ordination Educational Training for ministers which is organised and funded by Synod, - and sabbaticals for three months every 10 years for ministers up to the age of 60. He also spoke of the World Church grants

for travel in other countries, and the opportunities provided for Lay Preachers and Elders for refresher and training courses.

The third part of the theme was dealt with by Rev K Lynch under the challenging title "So you need a minister" he spoke of the discrepancies of many churches in fulfilling their obligations to the Missions and Ministry Fund and posed the question What is so special about your church that you have to have a minister? And then asked how many churches had sent a candidate for training in the last 10 years. The number of hands raised were few.

Apart from the main theme we had reports from Mission Council on Authority of Committees, Ecumenical Unity—Letters had been sent to churches in the Middle East, Tony Blair and a pastoral letter to all churches

---

### Out & About

---

on the current emergency and the Finances of the church and the need for Budget trimming or higher giving.

The Provincial Council report and General Assembly remits were presented and accepted. We were told of the New Growth Fund , the Lay Preachers Support Committee and Commitment for Life.

The Moderator received new ministers, retired ministers and students and paid special tribute to Revd Kathleen Hendry on completion of 70 years ministry.

As always the Synod meeting held twice a year, was an opportunity for churches to come together and to see the vision of God's work in a wider context than that of the local church and to share our problems and our joys –.

*Kitty Pugh - St Columba's*

---

**South facing aspect** is a new news sheet issued by the Southern Province, who proposes that it will be published four times a year, in time for Spring & Autumn Synods, Christmas and the Summer Holiday break.

Please feel free to send news of significant events for inclusion to Rev Jim Gould, 1 Deacon Way, SE17 1SL. Tel: 0207 703 7803 E-Mail: [crosswayj@aol.com](mailto:crosswayj@aol.com)

## South-facing aspect

### Visit to Sub Carpatho Ukraine

*(Rev David Helyar visited The Ukraine in the Spring of this year, and Provincial Council has subsequently agreed to form links with churches there. To give us a background for our new relationship with the Hungarian Reformed Church in Sub Carpatho Ukraine, David wrote the following)*

92% unemployment, but an amazing and outgoing generosity. Social upheaval following the collapse of the communist regime, but churches

growing and serving the needs of the community. These were just some of the impressions received during a brief visit to Sub Carpatho Ukraine over Easter, 2001.

With a number of other synod moderators and their spouses I was privileged to be a guest of the Hungarian Reformed Church in Sub Carpatho Ukraine. Arriving on Easter Saturday at the orphanage in Nagydobrony, we were greeted by staff, served lunch, shown around the orphanage with its 62 children, and

*(Continued on page 16)*

# Who do you say I am?

CWM's new theme challenges churches to rediscover the person of Jesus and live out this confession in their context. Nick Sireau asks key people within CWM about the thinking behind the campaign

IT'S ANOTHER GREY and drizzly Friday evening on a dirty north London street near King's Cross railway station, UK. A group of bored teenagers hang around an off-licence, daring each other to enter and buy alcopops - alcoholic soft drinks - cigarettes and beer.

Eventually, one steps in, pays for some bottles and cans, comes out and walks swiftly down the road, followed by his giggling friends. They come to a park near an old, stone church and huddle around a wooden bench to enjoy the rewards of their daring.

Hundreds of miles away, in Bosnia, the scene is repeated. The teenage boys smile, one of them with a cigarette dangling from his mouth, as a photographer comes up to them. They push their faces into the camera's lens as he takes their picture.

As globalisation increases the gap between rich and poor across the planet, more and more people are marginalised from the mainstream of society. Children across the world often suffer the most.

## Jesus doesn't exclude

That's why CWM, through its *Who Do You Say I Am?* theme, is encouraging its member churches to rediscover the person of Jesus Christ and his passion for the marginalised, and then present him to their struggling communities. "Jesus is the one who doesn't exclude, but includes, who doesn't condemn, but

invites," says Rev Dr Desmond van der Water, the general secretary of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa and CWM's next general secretary.

For Francis Brien, CWM's associate secretary for training and education, churches need to present Jesus to their communities in a way that will be understood. "Who do they say Jesus is? Most children and teenagers in Europe wouldn't be able to answer. And if they have heard of Jesus, they think he's the one who tells them off for smoking, drinking and having fun." In effect, churches have made Jesus

irrelevant to people's lives, she says. Ministers and Christians fail to live out their faith in a credible way, leaving most non-church-goers to see them as hypocrites. "That's why Jesus' question to his disciples is as important today as it was then. Who do we say Jesus is? And what does that mean for how we live our lives?"

## Failed Christians

Vijaya A Rathod, the representative of the Church of North India on CWM's Council governing body, is even more harsh. She believes all Christians have failed in their duty to proclaim Christ. "Each of us has gone astray, which is why Jesus still asks us that question about his identity.



Who do **they** say Jesus is?

**If you know Jesus in you, you shouldn't be afraid of telling the world that he is your Lord and Saviour."**

Indeed, how we live our faith is crucial, because that's how we will reflect the presence of Christ, says Jennifer P Martin, the secretary for public education of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. "We should live our lives in a way that helps others move towards their full potential."

At the heart of this is the revolutionary alternative to the modern world offered by Jesus Christ.

"The Messiah is not a powerful king, but the suffering servant of God," says Dr D Preman Niies, CWM's current general secretary.

By rediscovering Jesus, churches can help those most in need of him and his radical gospel of liberation.

*Posters in sets of two (see above) are now available for free from the Communication Unit at CWM's address. Please include your full name, address and the quantity.*

### A confession of faith

**O**nce when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" They answered, "John the Baptist; but others, Elijah, and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen." He said to them, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "The Messiah, the Son of God."



*(Continued from page 13)*

then engaged in conversation with the Bishop and the Lay President of the Church. They told us of some of the struggles and hardships which they had experienced, but were more anxious to share their hopes and dreams for the future.

Later in the afternoon we toured the working farm which is part of the orphanage, and then went on to visit the area where the worst of the recent flood damage had taken place. Many houses had totally collapsed, and it was unlikely that their owners would ever be able to afford to rebuild them.

On the Saturday evening we went in pairs to spend the rest of the weekend as guests of different churches. I stayed with the pastor of 5 village churches and was warmly welcomed into their home by the pastor and his wife. His stipend is the equivalent of £58 per month, £35 of which is spent on the university education of two daughters. Yet nothing was spared in the warmth and generosity of their hospitality, and it was a humbling and enriching experience to be with them.

On Easter Sunday we began with a house communion at 7.10a.m., a second house communion at 7.45, and then church services at 8.30, 9.30, 10.45, 12.30 and 2.00. All the village churches were full, including many young people and children.

Particularly moving was the baptism and communion in a Roma church, where only one person could read and write, and where the hymns had been learned by heart and were hauntingly

sung by the gipsy congregation. Easter is celebrated with equal fervour on the Monday, and each congregation gathered again at the same time to celebrate the resurrection. At the end of each Service the children made their own special contribution with singing and the recitation of verses from the Bible.

Before returning to Budapest on the Monday afternoon, we all gathered in the Diaconal Centre in Nagyszás where we were served a splendid tea and given the opportunity for further conversation with Bishop Laszlo Horkay. He spoke of looking forward to attending our General Assembly in York. Part of my reason for going to Sub Carpatho Ukraine was to seek ways in which our Synod might establish a link with the Hungarian Reformed Church there, and further explorations will be taking place in the ensuing months. I am deeply grateful to Mrs Janet Davidson, an Elder at Petworth URC, who has agreed to be our link person. Janet makes regular visits to Nagyberég, where she taught for some time, and her experience is invaluable to us. Our World Church and Mission Committee is also fully behind these explorations, and it is hoped that we may bring across a group of young people in the summer of next year. Watch this space!

*David Helyar*

*This was obviously written before our Synod, and we are looking forward to hearing a report from Janet who spent two weeks in the Ukraine in September.*



## Weekday Activities

Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

## The CHRONICLE

The December/January CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 25th November. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail) to the Editor by the second Sunday of the previous month, 11th November. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material..

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

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

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 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.*

## WELCOME Editors

November 4, 11, 18, 25	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334
December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334
January 6, 13, 20, 27	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568



### Worthing Area Team Ministry

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our Team web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.

# The CHRONICLE



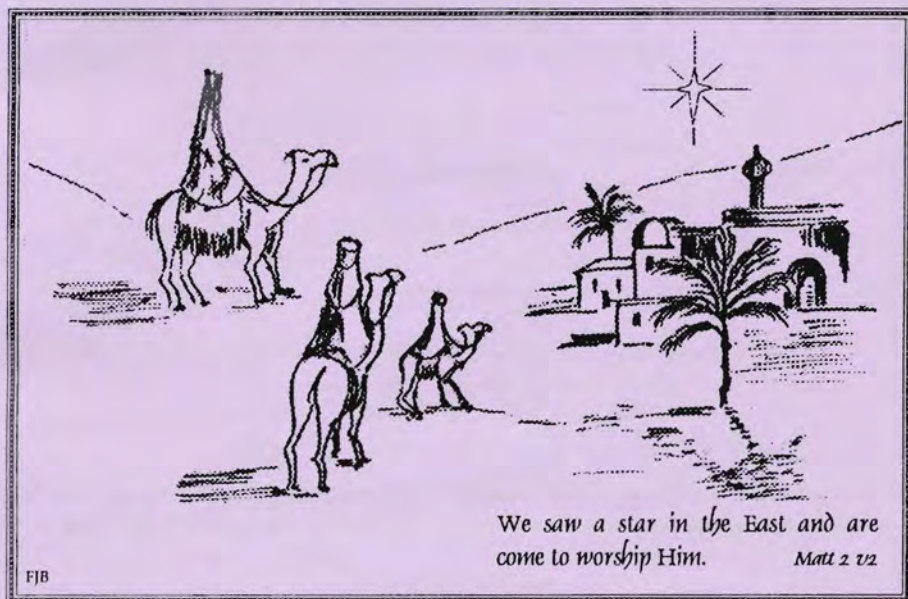
December 2001  
& January 2002

---

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

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

---



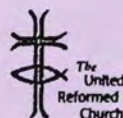
*We saw a star in the East and are  
come to worship Him.*

*Matt 2 v2*

FJB

## *Inside this month :*

- *New Year's Day of Prayer*
- *Letter from the Moderator*
- *Ruth's Chat from England*
- *Journey into the Ukraine*





## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— A church within the Worthing Area Team Ministry —

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

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

Team Web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)

### Ministers:

Rev Margaret Ashby - Telephone 01903 603481 - Friday rest day

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

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

Rev Andrew Sellwood - Telephone 01903 248259 - Friday rest day

*Church Secretary:* Mrs 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 Representative for Goring:* Mrs Sheila Gooderham

15 Harvey Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DS

Telephone: 01903 506452

*Other Worthing Area Team Churches and their Lay Representatives :-*

St Andrew's: Mr Jack Croy 01903 770689

St Columba's: Miss Linda Wilton 01903 260922

Shelley Road: Mrs Sue Prentis 01903 239244

## Sunday Services

8.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

- with Holy Communion on First Sunday in month.
- Family service on Second 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.



# **The CHRONICLE**

Vol. 63 - No. 570

December 2001 &amp; January 2002

## **Contents:**

<b>From the Manse:</b> Rev. Norman Croft	2
<b>The Local Church</b>	
Pastoral Matters	3
The Ark	4 -5
Report from Southern Synod	5
Tuesday Fellowship	6 -7
<b>Goring United Reformed Banners</b>	8 - 9
<b>Diary of Events (centre pages)</b>	10 - 11
<b>Southern Synod</b>	
Reports	12 -13
Christmas Lunch	14
<b>Worthing Area</b>	
Women's World Day of Prayer	16
Action for Dysphasic Adults	17
Lomas House	18
<b>Solutions to last month's Quiz</b>	20

**\*\* Insert: Ruth Chatfield's Newsletter from The Congo**







## Dear Friends

Writing this letter some weeks before publication means that it is not possible to be completely up to date. However, as we come to Christmas and the end of the year, what ever else may or may not happen, there is no doubt that we see the world of today rather differently from how we saw it last Christmas. A year ago we put our trust in God in a fairly comfortable, almost complacent kind of way, the comfort and complacency coming from the fact that things seemed to be going on in much the same way as they always had done. However, the terrorist strikes have played their part in shattering that complacency and helping us to see the world as it really is, a place of great beauty but also great risk, a place which God made but humanity has spoiled, a place of great opportunity for good and a place where, sadly, evil can strike anywhere at anyone, guilty or innocent.

In these uncertain times the real message of Christmas is more important than ever. That message is about God coming down to earth in the form of a tiny scrap of humanity, coming to poor people, to people without power or influence yet coming to fight evil and win, to be victorious over sin and death and to bring in the Kingdom of God for those who truly believe in him.

For many people the real message of Christmas has got lost in all the razzamataz and hype. One of the newspapers reported that this year parents are expected to buy their children Harry Potter clothes and toys

to the tune of £300 each! It seems that Christmas has been hijacked by big business and is now an excuse for eating too much and spending too much money. Whatever can God be thinking when he sees what we have done?

The tragedy is that those people who spend money in order to try to make themselves feel good are the very ones who so desperately need the real Christmas message. In these times when we realize how vulnerable we are to change, to the machinations of evil men and women, even to the chances of life itself, the one remaining beacon of Light for the world is Jesus Christ - God's gift to all of us.

This Christmas let us come to Bethlehem in awe, wonder and profound gratitude as we look again at the gift which God made to the world. Let us pray that we may not only believe but actually know, deep within us, that Jesus Christ shows us the way to live, the way gradually to come closer to God, the way to salvation. With the Light of God in our hearts we will go on in peace and joy. Whatever happens in the world we continue to look forward to the years to come in positive, expectant Christian hope.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a very happy and peaceful New Year.

With love and blessings to you all

*Margaret*



# Pastoral News



## Baptism

Daisy Phoebe on Sunday 21st October.

Picture shows parents Gaynor & Alan Anderson-Easey, Daisy's brother David and the three God Parents.



Daphne Eames would like to thank everyone for the flowers that she has recently received.

## Deaths:

Win Marriott on 23rd October

Audrey Stewart on 28th October

Elsie Donnelly on 31st October

*We give thanks for the lives of those who have died and pray for the peace in the hearts of their loved ones.*

## Elsie Donnelly

On behalf of my family and myself, I wish to express my grateful appreciation of the sympathy and support of brothers and sisters at Goring URC, on the passing of our dear Mum.

*With love from Michael Donnelly,  
Barbara and Pauline*

Dear friends

I'm writing to thank you all for your lovely visits, flowers, prayers and wonderful support given to Win and me during Win's long illness.

We both felt surrounded by God's love and found great strength from this - and from all your help.

*Bless you all, Cath Findlay*

## Member's Handbook 2001 amendments

Page 8 World Church & Mission.

Page 18 Directory

Delete: Mrs A Stewart

Page 18 Directory. Miss L Smith

Left hand column - Delete 2 insert 7




---

## TRIBUTES

**WIN MARRIOTT**

Win was a very quiet unassuming person who I liked very much indeed.

She became a member of our banner group when we made the backdrop for the little chapel. She was a very talented needlewoman. She was very interested in the current banner project and would loved to have been able to make her contribution but her failing health meant she was not able to take part. Now, she is at peace with the Lord and I give thanks that I knew her.

*Caroline Hibbs*

**AUDREY STEWART**

Audrey's membership with Goring URC extends from 1960. Over the years she was involved in Junior Church, Monday Evening Fellowship, The Missionary Group and The Tuesday Fellowship: to all she gave time with much dedication and love. She will be best remembered in recent years for her role with The Missionary Group, a stalwart supporter for the people's needs, both Spiritual and physical, throughout the World.

We will miss Audrey at our Group meetings but rejoice she is now at rest and at Peace in the presence of Jesus whom she loved and served. Don, her late husband who predeceased her some 3 years ago was instrumental in setting up the B.B. creating a time of joy and praise especially during Parade Sunday. After some years of indifferent health she recently went to live in a Home to recover from her frailness and debility. It was at the Home when she so suddenly passed away leaving a legacy of love and devotion for all to see as she pursued the great need in extending the Kingdom of God to the poor and needy.

We extend to her family, especially Amanda, our sincere condolences and pray the Lord's Blessing be with them in the ensuing days.

Those of us who were able to meet with friends in the Hall after the Service of Thanksgiving enjoyed the splendid Tea provided - all in memory of Audrey. Thank You. The service was beautifully portrayed by The Rev. Wm. Connelly. Something to remember as very special. With renewed thanks, P. Taylor on behalf of the Missionary Group.

*Pheniah Taylor*



## New Year's Day of Prayer

'My house shall be called a house of prayer' Isaiah 26v16

Our New Year Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday 3rd January from 8am—6pm.

Throughout the day, everyone who is named in our church handbook, plus all those people who are connected in any way with Goring URC will be prayed for by name.

If you will be available to join in this day a list will be available in the vestibule beforehand, for you to sign.

Come with a friend, a group or alone, you will find it a time of blessing.

.....  
Cards to take to the housebound with requests for prayer are again available in the little chapel.

## Christmas Lunch Saturday 15th December 2001

Plans are going ahead for this event—but please let me have your name(s) if you wish to join us in what should be a happy occasion. We cannot cater or cost if we do not know how many are coming.

It will be a roast turkey meal with all the trimmings but a vegetarian option will be available.

Even though I am unable to give a price as I write this I am sure you will find it will be an inexpensive treat.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Final details in Welcome or 'phone me.

*Robin Bradley*

*Doreen Norris*

## PRAYER changes everything.

We cannot bring about change on our own - we need to be in constant touch with God, not only for the strength to change, but to understand exactly how He wants us to change and what we need to do to bring it about. Change

which is not in accordance with God's plan for His world will never be successful. Keeping in touch with God is PRAYER. Do we take prayer for granted as an activity we can choose to do or not do, as we feel like it. Or do we remember what a wonderful privilege it is to be able to speak to God and hear what he has to say to us - a privilege we would want

to safeguard. Help us O God never to take for granted the immense privilege of PRAYER, but to treasure it and guard it even when others persecute us or ridicule us for spending time with You.

From 'Light for our Path' by Kate Hughes, who also edits the Bible Reading Notes for 2002.  
*Submitted by P. Taylor.*



*Our Church*

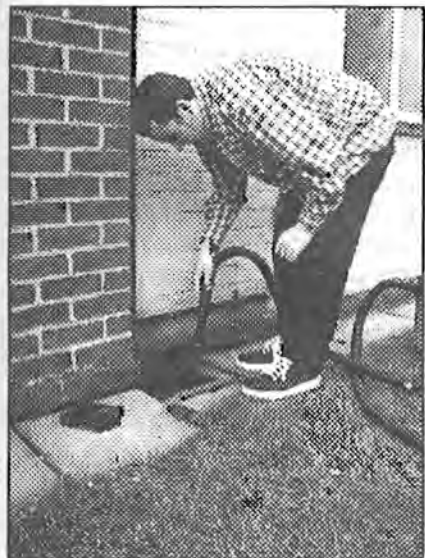
**The Jumble Sale on**  
Saturday 26th October in the  
Church Hall raised £245.00 for  
Church funds.

Thank you to all those who  
helped in any way.

*Wilfred Rhodes &  
Graham Redman*

## Working Days

From the 'top' jobs to the 'bottom' jobs  
many gave of their time and talents to the  
recent 'Working Saturdays' at the church.  
We were able to tackle quite a number of  
jobs and by the end of the two week ends  
the following tasks had been completed:-



application of silver paint to flat  
roofs, garden maintenance including  
trimming of the privet hedge,  
kitchen 'Autumn Cleaning',  
painting in main hall and touching  
up of other areas, maintenance to  
door handles and clearing of drains.  
Many many thanks to all who came  
along to take part.





## BANNER PROJECT

As you know the banner is progressing and looking really lovely. If you haven't seen it please take a moment to look and maybe be inspired to make a square yourself. I will have the banner out on the 24<sup>th</sup> November at the Festive Market for you to bring your squares and stitch them on, or enlist the help of a friend to do it for you!! I will also have pieces of fabric available and the necessary equipment for you to make your square if you haven't already done so. - *Caroline Hibbs*

## TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

16th October 2002

Only Carol our secretary knew what 'WIRE' stood for and she was on holiday. It is Wick Information Recreation, and Education'. The project manager of this scheme Mr Paul Sanderson told us that five years ago he came from Kingston Upon Thames to Wick. Paul is an effervescent 33 year old Christian married with two children who has brought love and stability to the community of Wick. The project now has a few paid workers many voluntary ones and classes are organised for the people of Wick about the above - information recreation and education. Sponsors come from local firms the local council and of course donations. We were very intrigued and entertained by the work being done by this young man. A collection was taken and a cheque for £80.00 was handed to Paul.

*Joan Burrage*

30th October 2002

About seventy people attended in all some from our own fellowship and church and some friends from other churches. This was the first time the service had been held in the hall instead of the church this was very good. We heard Canon Muriel Pargeter talk very movingly on 'Remember God in the bad times as well as the good'. Mrs Bobby Hitchin was the soloist and Mrs Joan Finlay played the piano for both the soloist and the hymns. Mrs Betty Razzell read the lesson from Deuteronomy Ch. 11 and Mrs Joan Burrage led the prayers, remembering our late member Mrs Audrey Stewart who had passed away on the previous Sunday. After the service a good tea was enjoyed by all and many thanks were given to the ladies who supplied the food and did the catering. Thanks also went to Mrs Trudi Sanders for arranging flowers on all the tables.

*Peggy Mott*

## Fellowship Groups

We are proposing to re-convene our Fellowship Group having finished the Emmaus Course.

We shall meet on Monday 7th Jan. at 7.30pm at 15, Harvey Road and will be studying the booklet issued by the URC — "All Change"

This is a series based on the 5 Marks of Mission and will last for, yes, 5 weeks. We will decide at the first meeting whether we shall meet weekly or fortnightly.

If you would like to join us please us know not later than the 10th December so that we can order the booklets which cost £1 each.

*Sheila & Roy Gooderham*

## Worthing Area Team

The Team Ministers and representatives met on Tuesday 6th November and the following will be of interest to you.

1. We welcomed Roger Weston from Sompting to the meeting and they are really looking forward to joining the team and will have much to offer.
2. There is to be a "Welcome Party" for Sompting URC on Sat. 27th April 2002 at Shelley Road URC at 7.30pm. It will take the form of a Barn/Line Dance and the caller will be Mrs. Elsie Flack known to many of us. There will be an American supper (we all bring something to eat). Tickets will be issued as numbers have to be restricted - there will be no charge.
3. The Mega Quest Youth Day held at St. Andrew's on 31.10.01 was both enjoyable and successful.

*Sheila Gooderham.*



## Sompting United Reformed Church Cokeham Road, Sompting

**I am writing to invite you to our WALK THRU THE BIBLE [Old Testament] seminar which we are hosting on SATURDAY March 16 2002 from 10.00am until 5.00pm at the above venue.**

In just these few hours, participants are taken through the Old Testament in an original way. It is highly creative and fun and has proved an effective way of learning and refreshing knowledge about the Old Testament for folk the world over. One participant recently remarked. 'After nearly 32 years of Sunday School teaching, personal Bible study, and four years of Bible College I have never enjoyed the Old Testament so much.' Four of our own congregation who took part in the seminar when it ran in Hove last year came back so enthusiastic that they wanted to run it at Sompting.

However we realise that it sounds a lot to expect people to sit all day learning about the Old Testament so we wondered whether we could send one of these people to your church meeting or PCC to give a two minute introduction to what this is really like. We also would like to ask you whether you would be so kind as to put the enclosed article in your church magazine in your Autumn edition. A stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for your reply.

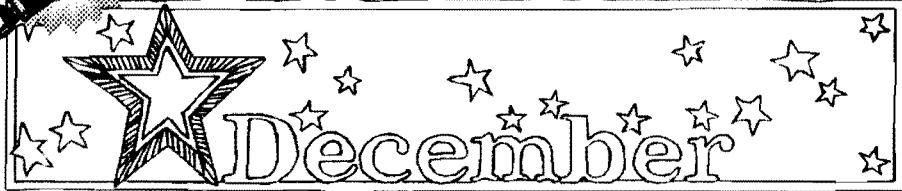
The seminar is open to anyone aged from 11 to 111! It is suitable for all stages of Christian growth. We are so excited about this that we thought we would like to share it with other Christians in the area.

The course costs £12 which includes a colour illustrated book, but because we know this is a lot of money to spend when people are not sure whether they would like to come, we have arranged an hours FREE TASTER SESSION SATURDAY JANUARY 26TH at the above church at 10.00 am. This will be presented by the same person who will lead the seminar and will show what the day will be like.

We should love to have anybody who would like to come along on that day. All they have to do is to turn up. There will be a retiring collection for a gift to Walk Thru the Bible which is a charity.

Thank you for reading this.

*Jenny Martin*



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

Thur 6 From 9.30am Day of Prayer  
9.30am The Ark



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Toy & Gift Family Service  
6.00pm Evening Worship

Tue 11 2.30pm Tuesday Fellowship Christmas Service

Thur 13 9.30am The Ark  
7.30pm Elders' Meeting

Sat 15 Christmas Lunch



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

Thur 20 9.30am The Ark  
2.30pm Prayer & Praise



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Carol Service  
6.00pm Evening Worship

**Christmas Eve** 5.30pm Nativity Service

**Christmas Day** 10.30am Family Worship



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
No Evening Worship



Preliminary dates for your Diary in 2002...



Thurs 3 8.00am— New Year's Day of Prayer  
6.00pm



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

Thur 10 From 9.30am Elders' Meeting



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

Fri 18-  
25

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

13th - Last day  
for February  
Chronicle material



8.00am Early Morning Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.00pm CTG St Lawrence's C of E

Thur 24 7.30pm Church Meeting



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

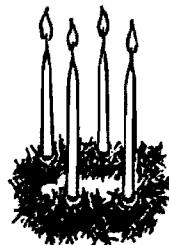
February Chronicle  
available today  
27th January



## Looking ahead . . . . .

16 March Walk Thro' the Bible. Sompting URC

27 April Sompting welcome party at Shelley Road URC







## A message from the new Moderator of the Southern Province Synod - Rev Nigel Uden

Firstly, I would like to say how moved we have been as a family by the welcome that you have extended to us since we arrived in the Synod.

There have been countless cards and letters, heart-warming words at so many meetings, and an especially touching concern for the well-being of Bethan and Jessica. We are settling most happily into our new home and Jessica is thriving at Caterham School. I am particularly grateful for Christine, Janette and Norman at the office, for countless folk in the Districts and churches, and for my ecumenical colleagues in Kent, South London, Surrey and Sussex. Thank you.

**The light shines in the darkness and  
the darkness did not overcome it**  
John 1.5

It is easy to have questions about whether a festive celebration is appropriate this year. We cannot dismiss from our minds the hallmarks of 2001: foot and mouth, flooding, the issues around people seeking asylum or refuge, with the race hate it too often engenders, and, of course, 11 September. All these and many others have the capacity to leave the spirit dulled. It can seem that the hope and fine intentions of 1 January 2000, just two years ago, are already little more than a vaguely remembered dream. Wither our Millennium Resolution: *Let there be respect for the earth, peace for its people, love in our lives, delight*

*in the good, forgiveness of past wrongs, and, from now on, a new start?* On the other hand, though, one senses that much of the world suddenly understands first hand what Paul suggests: *If one member suffers, all suffer together: Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.* 1 Corinthians 12.26 and Romans 12 .5

But is that all we can say? Surely, our faith perspectives beckon us to go even further. Though we have mixed feelings this winter, Christian people recall that Christmas celebrates the coming of God to dwell amongst us. The circumstances? - an inhospitable cave, a refugee in his ancestral home town; anonymity for thirty years, save the visit of a few shepherds and astrologers; and both ends of his life



framed by violence. And the context? - a country under Roman occupation, the Jews little more than strangers in their own land, second-class citizens in their own holy city. So injustice and inhumanity are not new. Today's grim methods may be novel and more far-reaching than in the past, and our power instantly to send images from one side of the globe to the other may mean it's all far more "in the face", but is our world really any more wicked than that into which Jesus was born? Far from avoiding Christmas, I want to suggest that we should seize hold of its story with renewed interest this year, and welcome the Christ of cave and cross into our similarly inhospitable and harsh world. We need to hear again his unique expression of God's solidarity with us, through all things. We need to hear again his offer of hope in the face of horror, of life in the wake of death, of good dwarfing evil. We need to hear again his call to be active in the cities over which we weep, making real the love of God in Christ through deeds of costly friendship. In Christ's name we need to add our voices, our votes and our efforts to all those who work for a world freed from brutality, neglect and apathy - a world where God's reign is welcomed and co-operated with.

In so many ways Afghanistan feels very remote, but there is one immediate and simple thing we can all do: during January 2002 a part of URC members from the Southern Synod will be visiting our partners in the Rayalaseema Diocese of the Church of South India. They will be in that part of the world which is particularly vulnerable during these days of response to 11 September. As you pray around that whole situation, please pray for these who go to India in our name, for their families and for our brothers and sisters for whom that diocese is home.

This Christmas, may they and we know the far-reaching blessing of believing that "God is with us", that his light shines into our darknesses, and nothing has put it out. Therein lies the potential for transformation, the possibility of wholeness and the plausibility of hope.

With the season's greetings from Christine, Janette and Norman at the office, and from Bethan, Jessica and me at the Manse.

Yours sincerely,

*Nigel Uden*



# RUTH's CHAT

(not from the FIELD)

No.27

England

November 2001

**Dear friends,**

I'm just coming to the end of three months in England, and am preparing to return to Congo-Brazzaville on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

Here comes a quotable quote I heard recently: *"How pleasant it is to do nothing and then to rest afterwards!"*

Initially, it didn't look like this was going to figure too highly on my agenda, although I did have ten somewhat relaxing days in **Worthing** with Mum during August, enjoying some summer weather and visiting elderly relatives and friends in the area.



September saw me in **London**, staying with my faithful prayer-letter distributor, Helena. Most of my time and energy was quickly taken up with visits to friends and churches, a steady stream of e-mails needing replies, and numerous other matters needing my attention.



I was able to be present for the induction of a new pastor for New Park Road Baptist Church (Streatham), and to appreciate being part of the fellowship.



By October I was glad to "get away" for a short break, firstly at a "Women Aglow" weekend, and then at Lee Abbey (North Devon), where there was indeed time for doing nothing and resting afterwards.

Another highlight was a family get-together to celebrate a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!



## Coming to Congo

Since then I've spent ten days at the **Wycliffe Centre**, as the autumn leaves were turning yellow, red and gold. I was able to touch base with colleagues and get to know **Helga Müller**, a Hungarian short-termmer with Wycliffe who will come to Brazzaville to work with us in January for a year. This is a real encouragement, since we are so short of personnel. Helga is learning a dictionary-making computer programme





which will equip her to work on the **Teke** dictionary data base. She has just finished writing a linguistics thesis for her MA, so she is already well qualified, although this will be her first visit to Africa.

Helga is not the only one preparing to visit Congo - **Mum has been busy having vaccinations and brushing up her French**, ready to travel with me to Brazzaville and stay for three weeks, to get a taste of Africa and see first-hand the work I'm involved in.

When we arrive, a **Luke** workshop should be in full swing at our Centre. Some of the translators who attended the Bible translation principles course

we ran in March this year will be returning to Brazzaville for an exegetical check of Luke passages which they have been working on in their language areas.

Once these Luke passages have been checked, the **Scripture Gift Mission** (SGM), based in London, will publish them as Scripture booklets in the different Congolese languages. It may be the first time that Scripture has been published in some of these languages! We hope that future workshops can tackle more Luke passages until eventually we can have whole Gospels published.

### LITERACY REPORT

In my last newsletter I mentioned a young man called **Médard** who has been a key player in getting literacy classes started in his village. In October, Andrea, Roch and another co-worker were able to spend several days in his village running a literacy workshop. **Andrea writes :**

*"It was exciting to hold a literacy workshop for the first time in a village area in Congo! I thoroughly enjoyed it. The climax was the closing ceremony on Sunday, when we had testimonies from the students.*

*Mama Solange shared how exciting it was for her to learn how to read and write Teke, and to know now that in Teke a syllable can only have one vowel!*

*Then a young quiet fellow from another village, shared how the things he had learned once in school about vowels and consonants had come alive by applying them to Teke. He said: " I am Teke like many other people, but I distinguish myself from most of them, because I now know how to read and write my language."*



*The Schools Inspector who attended the ceremony spoke very encouragingly about literacy in Teke. He said that it was a good beginning and that he hopes that we can continue producing more manuals, so that Teke can be used even as a language for teaching in school. Even after his speech, he mentioned to me how much he appreciated us doing things in Teke, since so many of the children enter school without knowing a word of French and that starting to teach them in Teke would make a world of difference to them.*

*The lack of French was also something we realized during the seminar. When I was walking down the street, several kids greeted me with "Bonjour Monsieur!" ...which also showed their level of French!*

*So, literacy has started, but it's a pity that we only have the transition manual. Especially for the village level a basic primer would certainly be better. Who will come to help the Teke people??"*

### **THANKS, PRAYER & PRAISE**

Thanks to all who contributed towards making my time in England enjoyable (meals, friendship, prayers, gifts, fun...)

- Please pray for safe travel for Mum and me as we fly to Congo on 9<sup>th</sup> November, and that it will be a positive visit for Mum!
- Please pray for Helga as she prepares to join us in January, for her adjustment to life in Africa and her contribution to the Teke project.
- Please continue to pray for Andrea, Alison, Jean-Pierre, and myself, along with our Congolese co-workers, as we facilitate translation and literacy in seven or so Congolese languages and plan more workshops for next year.

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ." (Eph 1:3)*

Since my next letter will not be before next year...

***Happy Christmas!***

***Ruth***



**Ruth Chatfield**

SIL-Congo, B.P. 1067,

Brazzaville, CONGO

Internet: [ruth\\_chatfield@sil.org](mailto:ruth_chatfield@sil.org)



**WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS**

Horsleys Green, High Wycombe  
Bucks HP14 3XL, ENGLAND





## FOREIGN CURRENCY WORTHLESS IN JANUARY

French Francs, or Italian Lire, or Spanish Pesetas - left over from your last trip abroad becomes worthless by January 2002 - there will never be a next time for these currencies. Twelve countries in the European Union move over to the Euro in January 2002 and France is one of them. France Mission can make good use of left over European currency - coins as well as banknotes. Money received before end of 2001 will be changed into Euros at the best possible rate, and the proceeds invested in evangelism in the Loire Valley.

The Missionary Group will be glad to receive your leftover coins or notes during December. By doing this collection of coins we will have the satisfaction of knowing the effort will be put to good use in helping the Christian work in France.

Any member of the Missionary Group will be pleased to receive your currencies.

Ruth Chatfield introduced the idea and we will want to give it our best. Thank You.

*Pheniah Taylor.*



## JOURNEY TO THE UKRAINE & HUNGARY

This my second visit this year being accompanied by Enid who has travelled with me on numerous previous occasions to this region. Flying with Malev Airlines to Budapest. We are met by Arkas, a Reformed Church Minister, and his father who is a lawyer. They take us across the city in their car to the rail station for a two hour journey to Miskolc where the church house is situated. In my bag there is a very smart pair of corduroy trousers. They are as new. We offer them to Arkas, after father measures son's leg and waist, and some hearty laughter, he accepts them graciously as a good fit suitable for a cold winter. The station is a most unsafe place especially for non-Hungarians with no language other than English. Carrying funds for Ukraine our friends remain with us whilst we await our train. Thankful to God for his mercies as we journey to Miskolc.

Arriving at the breakfast table at 10.00 a.m. (the previous day had taken it's toll but now felt greatly refreshed ready for a new day) bread, margarine, cheese, spam, tomatoes all very well presented and nutritional which Helen Dies and her daughter Una (8) had prepared - but the tea is so very weak! The morning is spent in the shops - Helen is our guide and translator. The whole place is bustling, crowds of shoppers, with all kinds of merchandise.

A far cry from when I first came to this country in 1986.

Tomorrow Sunday, an early start at 6.00 a.m. to Nagydobronyl, Ukraine. This really is a different world. Struggling down stairs with our bags as the dawn appears, it is hardly light - Daniel Szabo (Senior Churchman) is not ready but bless his heart he is preparing a meal! We sit down together still bleary eyed. Setting off on this long rough road journey it is realised very quickly that there is no water in the radiator and very little petrol. This dreadful oversight is rectified as providentially a service station is actually open so early on Sunday morning. Martin Robb, now part of the church administrative staff, travels with us accompanied by his young wife Bolya. Making good progress as the hour is still early and the roads in good condition. Drawing near to the border we stop for refreshments then speed on to take our place in the queue of vehicles waiting to go to Ukraine. The border itself is a depressing place. Dark and dismal, with the guards appearing so unhurried in their approach to work but happily Daniel has a diplomatic passport which gives great priority over the almost endless line of cars. In twenty minutes we are through.

This is Ukraine. Pot-holed roads, grey buildings, all so very drab, with no signposts. Just follow your nose and remember the way from last



time. But Daniel knows as does Martin we are in safe hands. Arriving at the Bishop's house (Horkay Laszlo) in Nagydobronyl there is a real air of activity. Family arriving, ministers, elders, friends and this is just a small house. We are, however, made so very welcome. There is to be a special service in church, with the schools at Nagydobronyl all well represented. Junior, senior, and the gypsy children all sharing in the worship and introducing special items in song and recitation. The church was packed to capacity (1,500) with many parents in attendance. This was a great credit to the church leaders. We give thanks to God for their faithfulness to the Gospel after many years in bondage to communism.

Having now been allocated to our room at the church orphanage at Nagydobronyl arrangements are made to visit the state orphanage at Chasloc. We have visited now more than six times. It is still very run down with a less than adequate budget to care for the needs of 140 children. Since our first visit other churches and individuals are taking a greater interest in the work which is obviously beneficial to the children. They are so excited as our arrival is noticed, crowding around our two cars which are loaded with boxes of Aid - clothes, blankets, shoes. Each child receives chocolates and sweets. This really is a red letter day for them. We rejoice in their happiness. There is disappointment too. Having distributed many pair of shoes to the children one lad looked quite forlorn

in that he was wearing footwear that would easily have fitted his father. Finding a good strong pair of shoes that looked just fine he was more than delighted. Alas they did not fit him - heart breaking.

We have a long discussion in three languages - Hungarian, Ukraine and English which inevitably lengthened the process of decision making. Should the funds we have brought be used to purchase four new washing machines or soap, soap powder, socks and undergarments for the children. Such is their great need! It was agreed that the washing machines should be purchased (they have now been installed) with the promise that other items be forwarded by road transport in November.

Spending the day at Nagyberég School we meet the Director Lajos Szilagyl with Egizike his wife, meeting too a number of teachers. The school is in good heart with 92 students and 17 staff, and a disused building being renovated as a girls' dormitory. In particular we are introduced to Angie and Tim, recently married English teachers from U.S.A. sponsored by the Christian Reformed Church. A delightful couple so concerned for the students' well being. After a splendid lunch in the "renovated pantry" and marvellous fellowship together we say our goodbyes, after they had expressed their grateful appreciation for our continued interest in Christian work

*(Continued at foot of page 20)*



# WebSite

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

*A Web site is being designed and built for  
Goring United Reformed Church.*

If you know nothing or very little about computers or websites, but still wish to help spread the **WORD**, and be of service to others, please read on.

Following on from the September Church Meeting, it is proposed to hold a series of meetings in January and probably beyond, to discuss ideas and content for our Church's new website. The three prime reasons for having a website for the Church is to provide a means of outreach; provide information for those wishing and needing to visit us and to provide useful information for our own Church members.

If you have an interest in this very exciting task of letting others know what we stand for, and would like to contribute in any way please speak to me (you do not need to know anything about webs, the internet or computers - honest!) - no dates have yet been set - we will arrange dates to suit.

Let's not get left behind in this world of rapidly changing technology !

*Go live date: 1st February 2002*

*Graham Redman*

*(Continued from page 19)*

in the Ukraine and Hungary over 16 years.

At the time of writing 40 boxes of Aid have been assembled which will be transported to Delft, Holland on 14th November 2001. Dave Stailard will drive a hired van and I shall accompany him. This will be forwarded by road transport to Nagydobronyl, Ukraine early in December. A similar trip was taken in

April when I was accompanied by our son John to Holland, and subsequently in August with his brother Martin taking the wheel.

The work in Ukraine continues, and we are grateful to so many for your support in different ways, from family, friends in church life and some we have never even met.

May God bless and keep you.

*Brian and Enid Wroe*

### Weekday Activities

Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Carers & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings
Prayer & Praise	Alternate Thursday Afternoons
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday school term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days

### The CHRONICLE

The February CHRONICLE will be available on Sunday 27th January. Articles please typed, (preferably by E-Mail) to the Editor by the second Sunday of the previous month, 13th January. The Editor will put you in touch with a typist if you are unable to provide typed material.

5 Salvington Hill  
High Salvington  
Worthing  
West Sussex  
BN13 3AT

Editor: Graham Redman

Telephone: 01903 260568

Tel/Fax/Ans. machine: 01903 260867

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

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 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.*

### WELCOME Editors

December 2, 9	Carol Webber	Tel: 01903 690334
December 16, 23, 30	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568
January 6, 13, 20, 27	Graham Redman	Tel: 01903 260568





### *Worthing Area Team Ministry*

United Reformed Churches at -

St Andrew's, Goring, St Columba's & Shelley Road

Visit us at our Team web site: [www.worthingchurch.co.uk](http://www.worthingchurch.co.uk)  
or better still visit us in person at one of the above churches.