

The CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter 2010

Volume 67

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

The CHRONICLE

Spring 2010



**On the third day he rose from the dead. He is risen!
Easter Sunday 4 April**

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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

E-Mail: thesecretary@gurc.org.uk

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day

17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX

Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper

27 West Park Lane, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP

Telephone: 07779 759658 E-Mail: thesecretary@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

10 Cissbury Drive, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 ODT

Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.uk

Church Secretary at St Andrew's: Miss Pat Thomson

37 The Grangeway, Rustington, Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN16 2QS

Telephone: 01903 776226 E-Mail: pat@pathomson.fsnet.co.uk

Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 67 - No. 622

Spring 2010

Front cover :

Flowers arranged by Mrs Jane Bond.

Easter Services:

Maundy Thursday: 7.30pm

Good Friday: 10.30am

Easter Sunday: 8.00am, 10.30am
& 6.00pm.

Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the next CHRONICLE magazine is the 1 May

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle



Contents

Minister's message 2

The Local Church

Messy Church 4

Goring Little Fishes Good news 5

Local Church Groups

A Book Review 6

New Year Party 8

Easter Concert. Handel's Messiah 8

Kestro Club 9

Fellowship 9

The Wider Church and Other Topics

Fairtrade fortnight 10

Women's World day of Prayer 11

Dance International 12

The Priest's Dilemma 14

The Life of Christ at Wintershall 15

Answers to Underground Quiz 16

Vision4life

YEAR 2 PRAYER

As you may be aware by now the URC has adopted a three-year initiative 'Vision 4 life'. A programme designed to re awaken people to some of the key disciplines of the Christian life. The first year was rediscovering the Bible, this year we are looking at prayer and in the third year - evangelism.

Well, what is Prayer? – Simple answer Prayer is Talking With God.

People who analyse society and categorise history call this age the age of communication. Ironically many people feel isolated and alone amidst all this chatter. The reason being our technology has removed the need for meeting with people face-to-face, or even hearing a human voice everything is 'virtual'. Perhaps because of this real relationships seem difficult to form hence the rise of dating agencies.

Again the question - What is prayer? Prayer is our direct line with heaven. Prayer is a communication process that allows us to talk to God! He wants us to communicate with Him, like a person-to-person phone call. Mobile phones and other devices have become a necessity to some people in today's society. We have bluetooth devices, blackberries, I phones and talking computers! We

Text, skype, twitter and even write on walls in Facebook. To many all these are an easy and convenient way of communication that allow two or more people to interact, discuss, and respond to one another; others find it all rather baffling.

So it may seem strange with all this communication technology around many people find the practice of prayer complicated, but in reality it is simply talking to God. Here are some points about what prayer is:

What is Prayer? – The Logistics *(Logistics - having to do with procuring, maintaining and transporting information or material)* Many people question what is prayer because they desire to pray, but don't know how. Consider these aspects:

What Do I Say? Praying is like talking to your best friend! It's easy to talk to someone when you know they love you unconditionally !

- Ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and make you new in Him! "Now turn from your sins and turn to God, so you can be cleansed of your sins" [Acts 3:19].

- Tell Him your needs! "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you" [1Peter 5:7].

Thank Him, for He died on the cross at Calvary for us! "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" [John3:16].

How Do I Say It? Here's how I have learned to approach the Saviour of my life.

- With confidence and belief that He will deliver: "Because of Christ and our faith in him, we can now come fearlessly into God's presence, assured of his glad welcome" [Ephesians 3:12]. "So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it" [Hebrews 4:16].
- With joy that He can deliver. "You have shown me the way of life, and you will give me wonderful joy in your presence" [Acts 2:28].
- With expectation that He is going to deliver. "Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly" [Psalm 5:3]. "I am praying to you because I know

you will answer, O God. Bend down and listen as I pray" [Psalm 17:6].

What is Prayer? - What Does the Bible Say?

Pray for each other. Jesus set an example for us on what to pray. He prayed for His disciples and for every generation to come that would follow Him. His prayer was that God protect and strengthen them as long as they were in this world. Jesus also prayed for those who would come to believe in Him through the Gospel message [John 17].

Pray with faith. "So, you see, it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him" [Hebrews 11:6].

Pray with worship and reverence. "Exalt the LORD our God! Bow low before his feet, for he is holy!" [Psalm 99:5]. "'Yes, Lord,' the man said, 'I believe!' And he worshipped Jesus" [John 9:38].

You will know with confidence that God can hear you when you pray, so open that line of communication! Pray, knowing that no matter how far you roam, your connection with Him can never be lost!

A prayer I may offer could be "I pray that our love for each other will overflow more and more, and that we will keep on growing in our knowledge and understanding"

Yours in His service Andrew

Messy Church

We have held two Messy Church sessions, Messy Christmas in December, when between 40 and 50 people attended and Messy Creation in amidst the snow and ice in January, which was understandably less well attended.

The doors to the Cornwall Room open at 3:30pm after school, with a chance for a cup of tea or squash and a biscuit. There are quiet games to play or simply the chance to have a chat with friends. The doors into the main hall open at 4pm and there is an array of crafts all prepared beforehand, and laid out on tables. Each table is "manned" and the visitors move around the tables, learning about the theme of the session, as they join in the crafts. Each child has a bag to put their "goodies" in. At 5pm we hold a short service of worship followed by a meal. Although it has appeared to go well, there had to be some tweaking between the sessions. The vast majority of children who have come to Messy Church have been pre-schoolers and it has been a challenge to find crafts and a style of worship for that age group that will still appeal to older children as well. Each Messy Church Session will bring its own challenges, joys and problems, but each session gives

the chance for people, both visitors and from the team, to meet with God in a lively, stimulating and caring environment.

The two main things that we have learnt from the two sessions is that the worship needs to be short and very active, with lots of participation and that we need lots of people on the team, almost the more the merrier!

The next Messy Church is on Monday 29th March and will be Messy Easter. If you haven't been to Messy Church, please consider coming, you don't have to have contact with children or crafts, there are other jobs, and you still get the same meal as the visitors!

Speak to Susanna, Sue, Bett or myself for more information and watch Welcome for details of Messy Easter.
Valerie Cooper



Goring Little Fishes Great News!

The group has been awarded £130,000 of the £147,050 that we applied for from West Sussex Capital Grants Team. This has been a long process to get the plans right, adjusted and passed. We are absolutely delighted it has been worth all the hard work, meetings, and discussions.

The church has offered to cover some of the shortfall, and we will be doing some fund-raising if we find we need it.

The plans are on show in the playroom and the corridor.

During the first phase (end of February – April) of the build the playroom will be completely refurbished. Whilst this is happening playgroup will meet in the adjoining hall. This hall is slightly larger than the one we currently use and has wooden parquet flooring. The toilets are adult-size but we will be using child toilet seats on them. This room will be set up in a similar way to our room now, including our toys and equipment. Fire-guards will be on the heaters exactly as in our current room. We will have a place to sterilise the cups, and will do our best to keep playgroup as normal as possible. We assure you that your child/children's safety is our top priority.

Once this phase is complete, we will move back into our playroom.

The second phase (April – July) will be the demolition and rebuild of the adjoining hall.

We apologise in advance for the noise, mess, lack of parking space, and sometimes not being able to drive round the building that will occur during the build. However we are sure that the improvements will be more than worth it.

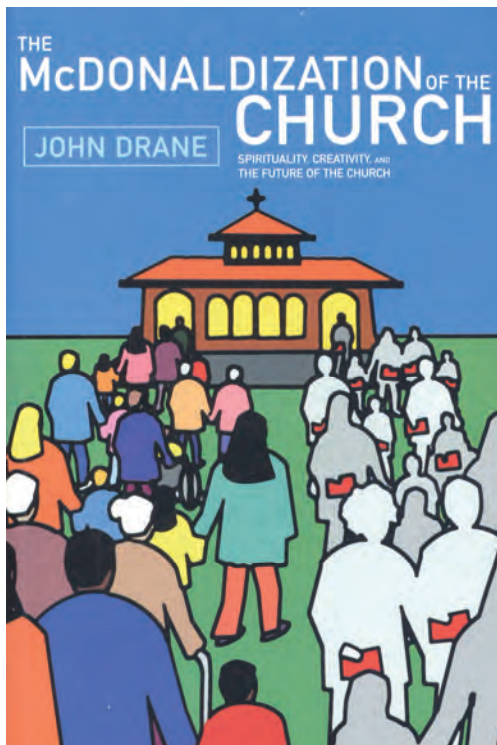
The third phase (August – September) will be the knocking through to join the halls together. The builder has worked this round to coincide with the summer holidays thus ensuring there will be no children onsite during this phase.

Phases four, five and six (September – October) are fitting railings around the new playground, fitting the canopy, and laying a soft playground surface.

We thank you in advance for your patience and continued support during this exciting development. We are looking forward to being able to show you around our new buildings in October/November 2010.

Sue, Val, Ricky, and Susan

A Book Review written by
Hilary Redman for TLS



The McDonaldization of the Church by John Drane

This book has been my companion for a summer. Not an easy companion but one which seeks to put me right with the way I think as an individual, and as a church member - both locally and nationally. It is a book unafraid to look into the future with a positivism which even today, nine years after it was written, has a message for those who would see the Church thrive and fulfil Christ's commission in the world. By his words the author seeks to impart knowledge and transfer inspiration for a Church in these post modern times.

John Drane writes at the turn of the millennium - at a time when there was much excitement about the future of life in general and a certain scepticism of how the Church would cope with the demands of the 21st Century.

Do not read John Drane unless you want to have your traditional church values challenged, or your notion of how church should be, turned on it's head.

He wrote before the events of 9/11, and the following engagements we have in the war against terror in it's most recent form. He writes before the age of the personal computer had really taken off and therefore before the world was quite as in touch with itself as it is now. Many Christians were slow to embrace the inevitable changes that developing technology was already bringing to our culture, and to the world in general.

He notices how communication is changing, (and we notice it has changed dramatically even since he wrote in 2000), which makes our rather slow and predictable Christian message seem just that. Today's people are engaging with each other through bright and vivid systems of communication beyond those known to John Drane at the time of his writing - we have moved on now into a world of laptops iplayers, iphones and many developing forms of mobile communication.

But at the turn of this century he asked his reader to be imaginative about ways in which to grow the Gospel in the lives of the Desperate Poor, The Hedonists, The Traditionalists, the Spiritual Seekers, The Corporate Achievers, The Secularists, and The Apathetic. Some of these we fail to realise exist while we still rely on our Pre-packaged worship - a church system which he likens to the pre-packed menu at McDonalds, an iron cage into which we try to draw others, but into which no-one would want to be drawn.

He puts forward a variety of some resourceful means, easily available to us, encouraging his reader to look for ways in which Christians can meet all seekers at their own level, reaching out to them from the life experiences which they have already had, and building on these rather than dictating from above those things which the Church says must be received. He urges us to listen to the seekers' stories and meet people where they are.

So, if you are up to a challenge, or want to see how far you have come in worship, mission and evangelism since the year 2000 or if you want to measure your progress against John Drane's ideas for the growth of the Church, then take up this book, and be prepared to confront your preconceived ideas. You may not agree with all that John suggests, or you may already have moved along in his direction, but there is much to learn from this work which is both thought provoking and demands our attention.

We should perhaps ignore him at our peril.

Hilary Redman

*Borrowed from the book shelf of
Rev Andrew Sellwood, Summer 2009*

Could you write a review of a book which has influenced you?
If so please let the editor have a copy for the Chronicle.

New Year Party

By the time you read this, it will be but a memory, albeit a very pleasant one, but I did want to say what an enjoyable time we had on the afternoon of the New Year Party.

It was a great pity that so few people were able to be there. Those of us who were had the pleasure of a great deal of fun and fellowship which was all down to the sterling efforts of Val Gill and Sue Mitchell. The two of them worked very hard, so on behalf of we 'Partygoers' I would like to pay a warm tribute to both of them.

Well done girls and thank you so much – you did us proud! *Doreen Norris*

The Rowland Singers Easter Concert

Handel's Messiah

Venue: In this Church

Date: Wednesday 17 March

Soloists: Helen Emery - Soprano; Gillian Jackson - Contralto;
Neil Turner - Tenor; Nicholas Ryder - Bass.
Jacky Emery - Conductor.

Tickets £7.50 (Child £2.00) and can be obtained from Margaret Butcher and Roy & Sheila Gooderham.

We hope to see you there. Sheila Gooderham.

Kestro help

No, not bus drivers this time. We are urgently in need of Car drivers who would be willing to be called upon if required to pick up people and to take them to Kestro and return them home afterwards. I know I have a rival on a Friday afternoon but there must be some people who do not play Bowls.

We also need more helpers to run the club.

If you can help please contact Carole Cullis. Tel 264847

Fellowship Meetings

Music is the overriding theme of our last few meetings.

Music for Dreaming and Music to Uplift and sing to. Our classical dream music was played while we watched slides of the Lake District. Not just ordinary slides though these were slides with fantastic skies, beautiful supple colours and water reflections to take your breath away.

A magical afternoon on the uplifting music came from an afternoon of popular songs sung by the Spurtles, one of them on the piano. We liked the songs they sang and several we were able to sing with them.

Our last meeting before Christmas was a carol service. Lots of carols, interspersed with different kinds of readings, and the highlight being the solo by Bobby of Hymn 420. Everyone said the afternoon was a success.

Our first meeting of the New Year was a party and the music on that occasion was a CD of a song made for charity by the Girls and Boys of Broadwater CofE First and Middle School with the help of the teachers from Worthing High School. Following this I attempted to entertain with a description of the wedding my family and I went to last September between my Nephew and a Muslim girl held in Istanbul that resembled a Carry on Farce. This was followed by a brilliant sketch by Bobby and Peggy with Peggy having a hole in her bucket. We were very lucky to get this meeting in before the snow arrived !

Carole Cullis

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT - 2010

22nd February - 7th March

For this year's Fairtrade Fortnight, The Fairtrade Foundation are asking the nation to join in The Big Swap. For two whole weeks they are asking you to swap your usual stuff for Fairtrade stuff.

Your usual bananas for Fairtrade bananas, your usual cotton socks for Fairtrade cotton socks, and your usual cuppa for a Fairtrade cuppa. This means that every time you go shopping, you can use your wallet to make a stand.

Anyone who wants to register their swap can register it at www.fairtrade.org.uk/thebigswap.

Every swap will be proof that the people of the UK want producers in the developing world to get a fairer deal. Two billion people - a third of humanity - survive on less than \$2 a day. Unfair trade rules keep them in poverty, but they face the global challenges of food shortages and climate change too. Fairtrade believes that developing world producers should be in control of their own lives, by getting a better deal for the work that they do.



I know that a lot of us already buy 'Fair Trade' goods and that some big companies have listened to their customers but there is still a way to go. Keep up the good work! Gaynor Anderson-Easey



Womens' World Day of Prayer

Friday, 5th March

LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE GOD

This is the theme for this year's service, which has been written by Christian women of Cameroon. The service is full of praise in word and song and our sisters in Cameroon share with us how we can praise God at all times and in all circumstances.

The Republic of Cameroon is said to be Africa in miniature. It is a country of great diversity with more than 240 ethnic groups and languages. The constitution promotes equality between men and women, but traditional rights and attitudes discriminate against women in many areas of life. However giant steps have been taken towards assuring women's rights and women are involved in the struggle for peace, justice and integrity. Cameroon faces many challenges as its people seek to move forward into a modern age without losing their distinctive characteristics but Cameroonians are able to praise God with joy and exuberance and the service reflects this.

Come to one of our local services and be a part of over 3 million people worldwide who will be celebrating, praying and worshipping together from the first sunrise to the last sunset.

2.30pm St. Mary's Church, Goring
Speaker: Rev. Zam Walker (from BRIGHTHELM URC)

8pm St Michael's RC Church, Hayling Rise
Speaker: Sister Maria Parcher (Daughters of Charity)

*Further details from Eileen Rhodes Tel 248263
– or the WWDP website www.wwdp-natcomm.org*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL



All around the world, people have taken part in folk dances to celebrate events. These traditions are kept alive here in Worthing at the Dance International Group which meets most Fridays from 7.30pm until 9.45pm in the hall at Goring United Reformed Church.

The group moved to the GURC in March 2009 from Field Place where they had been meeting for over 25 years. Our repertoire includes dances from home and abroad including Russia , Canada , Australia , USA , France , Hungary , Holland , Ireland , Scotland , Japan , Israel , and China and many are circle dances where no partner is required.



Occasionally we enjoy a party night or themed evening and our past themes have included "Anyone for Tennis?" "Summer Frolics" "Round the World" and "Trafalgar" when everyone is invited to dress accordingly. The photos accompanying this article were taken at our "Round the World" trip last summer. During our summer break we are fortunate enough to do some dancing in the open air at various members' gardens.

Back in July 2009 we welcomed two folk dancing enthusiasts from Canada who were on holiday in England and they taught the group one of their French-Canadian dances.

Last Autumn an international folk dance teacher from Eastbourne took a workshop where we tried out an evening of new dances. Our friendly group welcomes new members, so why not celebrate the fact that it's Friday by coming along!!

Keith & Sussanna Gauntlett



Do you like Cruising? The Rev John Jennings, who preaches here on occasion is gathering an ecumenical group for an **Aegean Cruise**, next spring.

With some other ministers, he has booked the liner MV Cristal, and has prepared a wonderful itinerary visiting Athens, Corinth, Thessalonica, Philippi, and Ephesus, so many places we know from the Bible, together with the beautiful isle of Patmos where St John wrote the book of Revelation plus three of the churches to whom it was sent including Sardis and Pergamum.

So this is a double holiday: a wonderful sea cruise around the Greek and Turkish coast, and a chance to visit Biblical places which were only names to us previously. Some from our church are already booked. If you would like to find out more, John will gladly send details. Just give him a ring 237395 or e.mail him at john.jennings20@ntlworld.com

THE PRIEST'S DILEMMA

If his sermon is a few minutes longer than usual: "He sends us to sleep"

If it's short: "He hasn't bothered"

If he raises his voice: "He's shouting"

If he speaks normally: "You can't understand a thing"

If he's away: "He's always on the road"

If he stays at home: "He's a stick-in-the-mud"

If he's out visiting: "He's never at home"

If he's in the Parish house: "Never visits his parishioners"

If he talks finance: "He's too fond of money"

If he doesn't: "Nobody knows what he is up to"

If he organises parishioners: "He wears everybody out"

If he doesn't: "The Parish is dead"

If he takes time with people: "He goes on and on"

If he is brief: "He never listens"

If he redecorates the church: "He's spending too much money"

If he doesn't: "He's letting things go"

If he's young: "He lacks experience"

If he's old: "He ought to retire"

And if he dies.....Well, of course: "Nobody could ever take his place"

Reprinted with kind permission of the Gloucester Catholic Deanery News

SPREADING THE WORD

WINTERSHALL

The life of
CHRIST

AN OPEN AIR PLAY IN THREE ACTS

Tuesday 29th June - Sunday 4th July 2010

*The greatest story of all time, movingly
recreated by a cast of over 200, authentic
detail, outstanding quality sound & music*

If you are interested in seeing, and being part of, this wonderful experience [all outside] at Wintershall, telephone 01483 892167 to book a place.

There is a leaflet on the table at the back of the Church.

Wintershall is near Bramley a few miles south of Guildford.

The cost of a ticket is £15 and £7.50 for children.

More information can also be obtained from their website - www.wintershall-estate.com

Answers to London Underground Quiz in Winter Chronicle

1. Dirty monks *Blackfriars*
2. Holy messenger *Angel*
3. Famous Queen *Victoria*
4. Noise of a dog *Barking*
5. Royalty vexed *Kings Cross*
6. An ellipse *Oval*
7. Foreign residence *Swiss Cottage*
8. Cuddly bear *Paddington*
9. A car *Vauxhall*
10. Famous battle *Waterloo*
11. Something falling down *London Bridge*
12. Where 007 lives *Bond Street*
13. Male chicken adopts *Cockfosters*
14. Snow town *White City*
15. A forest of miners *Colliers Wood*
16. Dutch playground *Holland Park*
17. Sindy can't but..... *Barbican*
18. Chess piece and card game *Knightsbridge*
19. Trunk and turret *Elephant & Castle*
20. Statue with inscription *Monument*
21. Elevated entrance *Highgate*
22. Shrub for keeper of flocks *Shepherds Bush*
23. Pale church *Whitechapel*
24. Extra entrance *Moorgate*
25. University entertainment *Oxford Circus*



Articles for The CHRONICLE - Summer edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by any of the following ways —

1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk
2. Via the website - www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle
3. By post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT
4. — or in the red box located at the back of the Church.

The last day for the Summer Chronicle is 1 May 2010

The Chronicle is also on line at www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Friday Evenings
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

Publication Team :-

Collating and stapling: Jane Bond, Mary Luckin & Susie Thomas
 Proof Reading: Beryl Richardson

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Grace Ralph. Telephone 01903 690714
 Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
 10 Cuckfield Crescent, Worthing, BN13 2ED

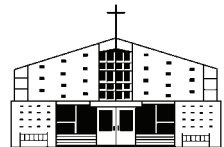
Editor: Graham Redman.
 Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT
 chronicle@gurc.org.uk

The Chronicle costs approximately 75p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

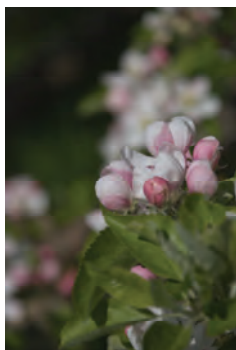
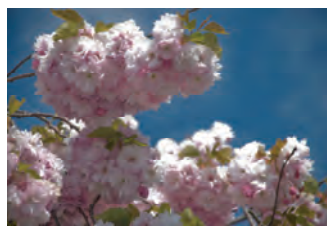
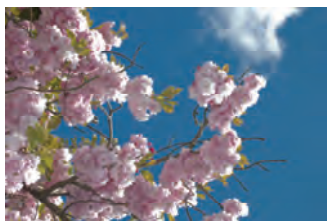
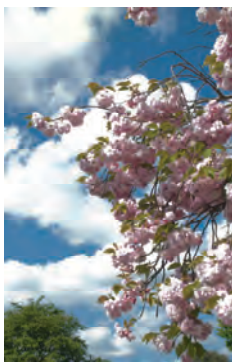
We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all



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

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Summer 2010



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

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Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 67 - No. 623 Summer 2010

Front cover :

The promise of summer to come

Cherry and apple blossom - the cherry pictures were taken in the church garden on Wednesday 12 May.

Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Autumn CHRONICLE magazine is the 1 August.

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

Ruth & Mammy's Newsletter No 52

is available on the table at the back of the church. Anybody wishing for an electronic version - just send me an email at chronicle@gurc.org.uk and I will forward you a copy. Graham Redman



Contents

Minister's message 2

The Local Church

Tributes to the late Alec Ralph 4
 Member's Letter 7
 Proof Reading 7

Local Church Groups

Goring by Sea Pilot's News 8
 Kestro Club 9
 The Ark 11
 Tuesday Afternoon Fellowship 13
 Little Fishes Sponsored Run 13

Church and Community

Festival of Light 14
 The Church for Worship only ? 17

Other Items

Durrington Community
 Centre Church 18
 Book Reviews 19 & 20
 Easter in Shrewsbury 22
 Keep Smiling . What you
 can do with dandelions 24
 Spring Harvest 27

This being the summer edition of the Chronicle you may be reading it in the garden relaxing in a deckchair, or you may be sheltering indoors out of a torrential downpour. Our best plans are often thwarted by the weather, a summer fete or a barbeque. We book events months in advance and just hope all will be well. A short while ago the country was grounded due to the infamous Iceland volcano and its drifting ash, many plans abandoned or altered during that unseen event. We are therefore reminded how little control we have over nature and how unpredictable it can be. But this fact doesn't stop us looking to the future and making plans.

Recently I was re-reading the booklet on the history of this church 'Twixt Downs and Sea' an account of the vision and resourcefulness of a group of Christians some 60 years ago. 60 years ago the world must have been so different then. Memories of a horrific world war still fresh in the mind perhaps leading to a renewed desire to move on.

The church then was in a vulnerable state challenged to provide answers to tough questions: How could a loving God allow suffering? Could faith still be

relevant in this world of new technology? Could the church with its set doctrines still relate to an increasingly liberal society? Church leaders and theologians struggled with these challenging issues. Gaps did appear as church and society separated. Even though events beyond the control of ordinary people were taking place those people still made plans, still had vision. The church emerged from this period as it always has done throughout history. It survives and continues to develop and change. The church has come through heresies, inquisitions, crusades, corruption, false teaching, it has re-formed. Let us remind ourselves of how the church was formed at Pentecost.

Ten days after Jesus ascended into heaven, the twelve apostles, Jesus' mother and family, and many other of His disciples gathered together in Jerusalem for the Jewish harvest festival that was celebrated on the fiftieth day of Passover. While they were indoors praying, a sound like that of a rushing wind filled the house and tongues of fire descended and rested over each of their heads. This was the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the faithful as promised by God through the prophet Joel (Joel 2:28-29).

The disciples were suddenly empowered to proclaim the gospel of the risen Christ. They went out into the streets of Jerusalem and began preaching to the crowds gathered for the festival. Not only did the disciples preach with boldness and passion, but by a miracle of the Holy Spirit they spoke in the native languages of the people present, many who had come from all corners of the Roman Empire. This created a sensation. The apostle Peter seized the moment and addressed the crowd, preaching to them about Jesus' death and resurrection for the forgiveness of sins, the first sermon. The result was that about three thousand people came to faith that day. [Acts 2:1-41].

The names of the faithful recorded for posterity in the history of the church are unknown to most people here today. But they have and continue to leave a mark in the life of the church; each person is important, we all play our part in God's great plan.

Goring URC is still between the downs and the sea, there are a lot more buildings around than there were 60 years ago and sadly perhaps a few less members. But we are still making plans and there is still a vision for the future. Like those before us, we need to

explore every opportunity and take a risk sometimes. As long as we do this in faith and believing we are working for the furtherance of God's Kingdom we shall succeed. Remember: *We are here to Worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all.* So in our local church we can learn from the events of the first Pentecost, the birth of the Church and realise we are richly blessed. We have the solid foundation of Biblical tradition fused with the exciting ever-changing and challenging dynamic of the Holy Spirit. All things are made possible to us through the experience of Pentecost. May the fire of the Spirit continue to give it new life and growth.

Yours in His service Andrew

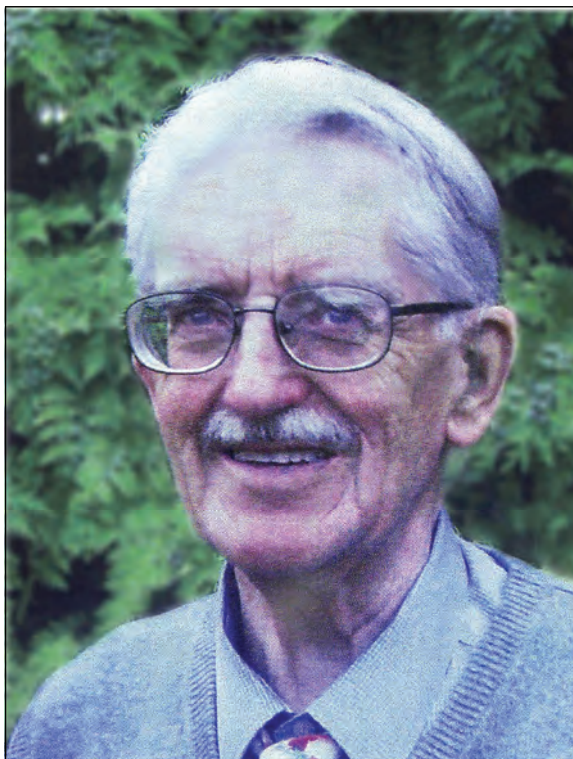


ALEC JAMES RALPH 1929 - 2009

Alec went to be with the Lord on the 9th. December 2009 aged 80 years, after a long battle with cancer. He is sadly missed by his family and friends.

He was as a teacher by profession and taught in three schools during his teaching life. He retired to Sussex with his wife in 1987.

He was a member and elder of this Church spending some time at our sister Church, St Andrew's in Rustington. During this time he served the Church in various ways - preaching, teaching and Bible Study. He was always ready to serve the Lord and the Church despite his frailty which did not extend to his spirit.



The following poem which we found at the Hospice Chapel will encourage us to realise that Alec and each one of us is irreplaceable - unique and has a part to play in the life and witness of the Church here on Earth.

Grace Ralph

You're Special

In all the world there is nobody, nobody like you.
Since the beginning of time,
there has never been another person like you.
Nobody has your smile, your eyes, your hands, your hair.
Nobody owns your handwriting, your voice.
Nobody can paint your brushstrokes.
Nobody has your taste for food, or music, or dance, or art.
Nobody in the universe sees things as you do.
In all of time, there has never been anyone
who laughs in exactly your way.
And what makes you laugh or cry or think
may have a totally different response in another.
You are different from every other person that has
ever lived in the history of the universe.
You are the only one in the whole creation
who has your particular set of abilities.
There is always someone who is better at one thing or another;
every person is your superior in at least one way.
But nobody in the universe can reach the quality of the
combination of your talents, your feelings.
Throughout all of eternity, no one will ever walk, talk, think, or
do exactly like you. You are rare.
And in all rarity there is enormous value,
and because of your great value,
the need for you to imitate anyone else is absolutely wrong.
You happen to be special, and it's no accident that you are.
Please realize that God made you for a special purpose,
He has a job for you to do that no one else can.
Out of the billions of applicants, only one is qualified.
Only one has the unique and right combination
of what it takes, and that one is you.

It was a great privilege to have known and worked with Alec over the years. Whilst he was an Elder we all came to value and appreciate his quiet and sincere devotion to our Lord which was complemented by his faithful Bible study and prayerful contribution to our deliberations. He faithfully served in his role as leader of

the World Church and Mission Group for several years, keeping us informed and in touch with our responsibilities in the wider church. And of course he was a valued lay preacher with thoughtful, careful and prayerful preparation for leading worship. We sadly miss his presence, but know that he is with his Lord. *Jane Bond*

I expect many of us can look back and remember someone who made a strong impact on our lives. For me Alec was just such a person. Although he was such a private person he was always a sympathetic listener, ready to help and encourage. He was steeped in the scriptures and obviously walked close to his Lord.

My own personal memory of Alec was when he visited me in hospital on the day I was told I would almost certainly

lose my leg. He took one look at me, reached for my Bible read and prayed without saying anything to me. As you will realise, I didn't lose the leg. A real answer to his prayers.

We all witnessed his fortitude and steadfast faith as he struggled through months of illness. We have lost a very special man who we were privileged to have as a member of our church family.

Audrey Gerlach

Alec was a real friend to me, and I know that he was also a brother to all who knew him well. I first got to know Alec when he and I were elected to serve on the eldership here just over six years ago.

Being a wonderful Bible scholar, he was a great help to our Bible Study Group at 5 Salvington Hill. He guided us through the Old Testament but sadly he became too ill to join us for many meetings once we started exploring the New Testament. His input has been invaluable to everyone in the group, pointing us in the right direction. We are still using the guidelines he prepared for us as we continue to study Paul's letters to the churches - and we miss him.

He was also a great encourager when we were discussing plans to improve the Cornwall Room, and I doubt very much whether the project would ever have got off the ground without his marvellous support and guidance. As he was so close to the Lord, I valued his views very much and it was lovely to have him taking such a keen interest in all that was planned for the Church. It was a joy for him to see the completed room.

He loved his garden, and during the last summer of his life he showed me around, pointing out various plants and fruit trees and wondering why the plums were not fruiting too well. A Christian example to us all.

Hilary & Graham Redman



From Caer Gwent

Thank you to all my friends at Goring for all their various ways of remembering me from time to time. Here in Caer Gwent I am so grateful for all their care. I also receive Aroma Therapy every week and have been given a four wheeler frame with a seat to help me with walking and this is excellent - I await a hospital appointment and diagnosis about my leg which is very painful and which lacks on certain movements or shift of balance.

Our Sunday service continues to thrive. We had 23 last Sunday

(18 April). Lately we have had difficulties as leaders have left or transferred to other Guild Care homes, or from illnesses. Occasionally we welcome Christians from other churches to add interest and give a five minute cheerful talk.

I do help as required, but my brain is now a bit rusty! Fortunately I have lots of memories, some of which I can use as life's parables - my own parables. Can you come and share yours?

Greetings from me to you all,

Eileen Jordan. Tel. 208169



Chronicle Proof Reading

As Beryl Richardson moves away from Worthing to be living closer to her family in Woking, we thank her for her valued help with the Chronicle. Beryl has been Proof Reader for the magazine since Ron Jordan passed the job on some years ago, helping to ensure that all those silly mistakes we make don't get into print!

Beryl, many thanks from everyone who submits articles to the CHRONICLE, for you have often 'saved our bacon' by giving us that precious margin of error!

We also wish her well in her move, and whilst we are sad to lose her, we must surely be glad for her as she will be much closer to her loved ones.

Graham Redman



Pilots have been busy since we last gave you any news. We have been meeting in the Cornwall Room since the beginning of October and very much enjoy it. It is always warm and the carpet is just right for playing "Dead Lions". In the lobby we have somewhere to hang our coats, and it is always well lit.

At the beginning of the autumn term we started a project about garden birds and each month we have a small survey of the birds that visit our gardens and fill in the charts we have made. You may have seen birds up on our notice board. We also made an investigation into the different animals found in the Bible. Among the animals we heard the story of a Balaam and his talking donkey, a bit different from Shrek and his talking donkey!

Before Christmas we held a very successful coffee morning to raise money for a Pilots day out and for In Ministry to Children. We support this charity which helps street children and the poorest families in Colombia

During the Spring term we started a new "Overseas Voyage". This year it is called In the Footsteps of Jesus, learning about the Palestine that Jesus new about, and Palestine and Israel today.

On Monday 25th January, we had a visitor from the new Pilots Regional Office, Kirsty Middlemist, who is also the Synod Youth Officer's assistant. She joined in our activities and games, intrigued by our cooking project of cheesy feet! They were very tasty!

Pilots will continue to have fun as 2010 progresses. *Valerie Cooper*

-
- *In the Autumn CHRONICLE : Pilots day out to Moor Valley Park*



The Bluebell Run

What it is to have inspiration! It must abound in the Webber household as Carol came to me as the fairly new 'kid on the block' in relation to the running of KESTRO, and said something like 'do you think we could try and view the bluebells in the Angmering Park Estate'? I thought it sounded like a good idea but needed thinking through and sorting out. Carol went on to say that she thought the members at Littlehampton United Church might lay on a tea for us afterwards. She went ahead and firmed up the idea for the 7th May.

(Continued on page 10)

The only headache (there always is one isn't there) appeared when it was discovered that although the bluebells were present in abundance and afforded a beautiful sight, by far the best views were to be had from within the wood and access to it was via a gate which is often locked.

A telephone number for the Angmering Trust Estate was discovered and I was asked to give the Trust a call.

A very helpful lady told me that it was private property and the owners reserved the right to lock the gate. She could not guarantee the gate would be open on Friday 7th May.

Maureen and I did a reconnaissance on the Wednesday. The gate was open so we decided to go for it.

Friday was a greyish day but no rain. A small but contented group of KESTRO members set off in the ADUR Transport minibus. (It always looks tired and past its sell-by date but usually gets us where we want to go) Steve drove with Carol as escort.

Skilfully he manoeuvred the bus up Blakehurst Lane, a metalled road. At the top he turned towards the wood. This is a lumpy road much more suited to horses, cows and the like, not buses. However at a slow speed, Steve did not manage to catapult any of the members or helpers through the roof. He arrived at THE gate! Was it open YES !! The sun shone.

We sailed on into the wood and the carpet was all around us. A truly auspicious sight. We were even able

to drive a short way on a tarmac road as smooth as a baby's bottom where bluebells lay thick on either side.

After a short sojourn we moved off to Littlehampton and to the church hall where we were warmly welcomed by three of its members. They took us inside and there was a sumptuous tea- sandwiches with the crusts taken off and plenty of varied fillings, cakes and biscuits-laid out on tables decorated with cloths and pretty floral arrangements. I began to wonder whether they had expected a more august group (Royalty even) as in my experience one only has sandwiches with no crusts in the presence of the Queen or her entourage. Cups of tea were quickly dispensed-coffee for the more fussy amongst us- and gratefully received. Short shrift was made of the small banquet.

We gave our thanks and a round of applause. Small recompense for so much industry. (I have thanked them in correspondence)

A replete, happy bunch of travellers were taken home having witnessed, not only the great glories of nature but also the kindness of willing, helpful people.

Thanks for the inspiration Carol and Steve, and to all the KESTRO helpers who make this, and all the other Friday afternoons worthwhile.

Vic JOY

- Photo of Peggy Mott Vice Chairman in the Bluebell wood

The Ark



As the end of another academic year approaches it is time to let you know how we have been getting on in the Ark.

Our first news was sad news, as we learnt that our dear friend and 'door bouncer' Les Richardson died, having only been away from the Ark for about one term. He was known by the children as "Mr Sunshine" as he often greeted the little ones with a cheery "Hello Sunshine" as he opened the door.

Happier news was that as the autumn term got underway a good crowd of mums, carers and older relatives began to bring the children to play, and just before Christmas we welcomed our new 'bouncer' Brian Mitten' who in-between-times entertains the little ones with soap bubbles, which they love!

The autumn term always presents us with a variety of craft ideas, from dry leaves to fireworks, and on to Christmas decorations and so on. At the beginning of the spring term we began to put a picture of Noah's Ark on our board in the Cornwall Room. This was followed by a colourful rainbow, and the text "After the flood God put a Rainbow in the sky - a sign of God's promise to Noah" Now we are into the summer term and everyone is colouring and sticking fish onto a new display for our board. We have noted that the Pilots are also into fishing at the moment!

Now we have had to say another 'goodbye'. Our dear friend Beryl Richardson has decided to move closer to her family, and can no longer help us in the kitchen. We also miss her playing the piano to accompany our percussion instruments. Marching is just not the same without you Beryl!

May be 'academic year' is a strange phrase to describe the passage of time in a toddler group, but those of us who have time to watch, see the learning process begin, and the growing process gather pace as the children develop - sometimes only a few weeks old when they first come - into strapping 3 and 4 year olds. We hope that as they grow they will discover friendship, and love in the safe environment of the Ark. We hope too, that some of our Christian attitudes and our love for Jesus will permeate all that we seek to do as a team serving those who come in. We pray that we may be a useful part of the lives of those we meet, and thank everyone who supports us in prayer, and by other means, so that we may continue in this work.

The team now consists of Margaret, Brian, Mary, Hilary and Graham, with additional help from Jane who for the time being is making our refreshments.

We look forward to a new academic year 2010/2011 beginning in September. Let us hope and pray for a safe, fun holiday, and a reunion of friends in the autumn.

Hilary Redman

Eileen Rhodes kindly gave me the following page from the Women's World Day of Prayer 'Focus' magazine February 2010. This page and the extract found on page 17 have been

reprinted with kind permission of Margaret Pickford, who is the Lutheran Church representative on the WWDP's National Committee.

"1277 - Make them Count"

"This month we have been asked by Major John Smith of the Salvation Army, to pray for a non-denominational groups - National Strategy for Christian Toddler Groups - which includes specialists from major denominations. They have focused on the Parent and Toddler movement in which 1277 is the average number of days toddlers belong before they move to nursery. The aim of the 1277 group is to highlight the rich potential of this activity on the church agenda. they believe that the "Parent and Toddler" groups should be seen as a part of the bigger church picture and part of the church's vision, so that the church is recognised by their communities as being the heart of the community life. They want groups who lack networking and support, to function under church authority and to be able to share resources and to encourage and enable groups to be unapologetic about their faith.

Major John smith asks us to remember in our prayers

- the 1277 group - all denominations have a large number of parents and children linked to their church. The Salvation Army, as an example, has about 14,000 adults and 17,000 children linked to its P&T groups - potential within the church is amazing! The 1277 days count.
- to pray to ensure that the church recognises the true worth and the hidden potential of these groups.
- to ask that not only does the church give lip service to the situation but also practical support.
- to ask that people who worship on a Sunday will recognise that the parents and toddlers who come to the building are precious in God's sight and are valued."

At Goring URC the Ark Toddler Group is blessed by being 100% supported by it's parent Church, both by prayer, helpers and financial resources.

The Ark 'team' are always aware of the precious nature of that support, and

thank God for the blessings which, as a consequence, abound in the group. Let us not be complacent, the work and therefore the support needs to go on and on.

Hilary Redman

Fellowship Meetings

Our Tuesday meetings over the last few months have been interesting and varied. From Bingo and Charades to an informative talk by Eileen Rhodes on Women's World Day of Prayer. I don't think any of us realized just how hard Eileen works in representing us, organizing and taking part in meetings all over the country. She showed us slides as well as sharing facts with us.

We had a slide show afternoon on Parham House which gave us a wonderful insight into the history of the house and Derek Walker came one afternoon to talk about Goring's past and to show us postcards.

On another afternoon we were shown films on the work of the RNLI. The representative who came to talk to us was most interesting and the films were dramatic and gave us food for thought. One of the short films was of the rescue of the crew of the Ice Prince

that affected us so much with all the tons of wood covering our beaches.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed that afternoon as they did when Hilary gave us a talk on what Easter means to her at our Easter service.

Our next meeting is our AGM and Carol Webber will be stepping down as our Secretary. Our thanks go to Carol for all the hard work she has put into arranging a wide range of informative and entertaining afternoons for us over a number of years. We hope she will carry on coming to our meetings. Our new Secretary will be Alison Westcott and we welcome her as a new member to our team.

We still have our garden party in Bobby's garden to look forward to and perhaps this year the weather will be perfect.

Carole Culliss



The Little Fishes Sponsored Toddle, [or in some cases, a run !] on Tuesday morning 25 May.

This chronicle went to press too early to be able to say how much they raised for St Barnabas'.

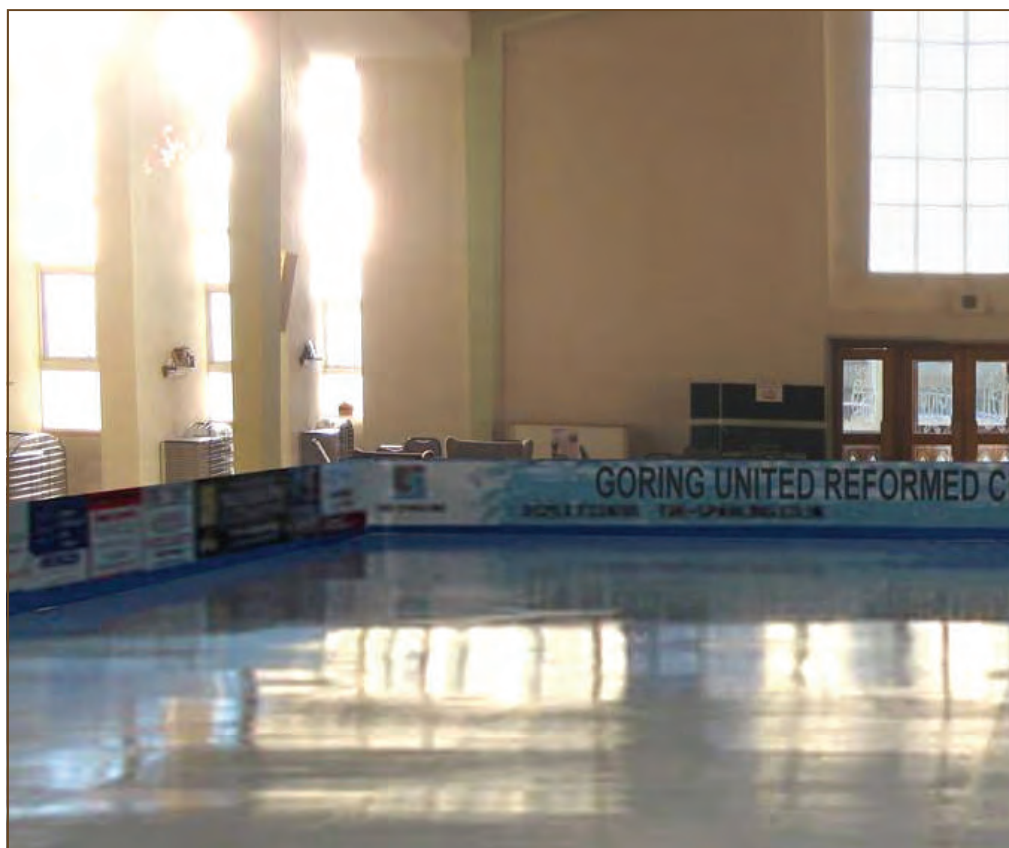
Well done Little Fishes !!!

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

Festival of Light

An Anti-Halloween Mission

This October, Goring United Reformed Church will be holding a Festival of Light as part of our Outreach Mission. The main aims of the festival are to get 'non-church people' inside the building, show them that we can be fun, raise the profile of the Church (this Church in particular) in Goring and to raise money for St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree House Hospices.



The festival will take place over 4 days in Half Term, (Wed 27th – Sat 30th October) and the main attraction will be a synthetic “Ice” Rink. We will also have refreshments, Fairtrade items for sale, entertainments, services, and a quiet area to ‘light’ a candle (techno-candles on the computer or a cardboard candle to get around the dreaded Health and Safety!).

The festival will cost approximately £5000 to put on, but this cost can be covered by sponsorship. We are already talking to one of our local Funeral Directors who are interested in sponsoring us. We will also be able to raise money by charging people to use the Ice Rink.



The Rink itself will be provided by "Ice Magic". It is a 9m x 8m synthetic Ice Rink, with a completely smooth surface, surrounded by a barrier. We will also be provided with a full range of skates (toddlers and the disabled included), insurance, 2 staff members to look after the rink and skates, and a snow machine.

We will be looking for lots of people to help in various areas, for example: refreshments, organising ticket bookings, checking toilets, manning the stalls, sound and visuals, looking after the candles, decorating the church and halls, greeting people, security, and being around to talk to people about who we are and what we do here.

This is a fantastic opportunity to talk to people and put us on the Goring map. As soon as we have more details we will let you know, but look out for members of the Outreach Group who are creating lists of jobs for all of us! Most importantly, please pray for the event. Prayer cards will be available soon.

Mary Redman

Last year's Christmas Tree Festival and Skating Rink at St George's Church Chichester.



The Church for Worship Only ?

In the Middle-Ages the role of the parish church went further than a simple place of worship. It was the central point of community life. Baptisms, marriages, burials, and other religious festivals were celebrated but the nave belonged to the people of the parish. Education, legal decisions, collection of church taxes [tithes], trading etc all took place. As the State took over these roles the whole church building became used as a place of worship.

Nowadays many churches have realised the importance of outreach and of allowing groups to use their buildings. In order to build a Christian community in worship and related activities the need for more space for social and cultural activities became apparent. In 1929 St. Jean Baptist Church Manhattan's Upper East Side USA started "A Tradition of Shared Use". They began by establishing a girls' high school. Since then choirs, organists, orchestras, toddlers, playgroups, senior citizens. Alcoholics Anonymous and counseling groups have met at the "parish center", serving the congregation and the surrounding

community. The lower church was divided into a series of multiple-use spaces suitable for many activities. The shared use did not generate significant income for the parish because some groups were not charged rent but they gave donations. Free advice was given to people who could not afford to pay a fee for expert advice.

Integrating groups into the life of the Church is a common problem right across the board. There are, of course, occasional problems. Juggling the use of the space among the groups can become complex. There are complaints about lack of income. Sometimes the groups have difficulty getting along, but the impact of bringing the surrounding community into a church facility can be enormous. People care for the building. It is 'their' church. They become part of the parish community, though they do not necessarily attend on a Sunday, or claim membership in the parish, or in any Christian church but it takes time and effort to develop goodwill. The church's pastoral mission has been extended and has enriched lives. .

Excerpt from WWDP magazine, 'Focus'

DURRINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE CHURCH

(A Local Ecumenical Partnership)
Tesco Complex. New Road.
Worthing. West Sussex. BN13 3PB.

Minister: Revd. (Mrs) Margaret Ashby B.Th.

March 2010

The Church Secretary.

Dear Friend,

This letter comes to you as an Appeal - not for money but for your prayers and that of your congregation and friends.

Probably all residents of Worthing will know from local disruption and the Press that the new DURRINGTON TESCO EXTRA store opened on 25th February so leaving the building of the new Community Centre to begin. In the present plan this will not be completed until January 2011, when all organisations using the Centre will be able to move in, including ourselves, the Durrington Community Centre Church.

The vision of the Founders of the Church from the beginning was one of the Church being the heart of the Community Centre and we would like your prayers and support to make this a reality once more.

On behalf of the members and friends of the Church I am enclosing pamphlets to remind / let new folk know who we are, where we came from 25 years ago, and to ask you to join us in prayer that the Lord will make known to us His plan and purpose for our continued work in this district.

We would also value your prayers for all people affected by the move.
Thank you very much

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Ashby.

AUTUMN CHRONICLE CLOSING DATES - Page 23

I have been reading a fascinating book with a most peculiar title - "The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society", written by Mary Ann Shaffer and Ann Burrows.

It is a book of letters written between the mainland and Guernsey after the last world war. Letters in which a lady wanted to write about the occupation of the Island and therefore, contacted many Islanders who were there at that time. Of course there is a story running through the book.

Whilst reading the book I had memories of a wonderful holiday

that Leslie and I had in Guernsey when, by accident, we met a couple who were on the Island during the occupation, so I could recall many of the incidents mentioned in the book. Not mentioned was the hostility between the Islanders after the war, between those who suffered, those who collaborated with the occupying force and the people who returned from the German labour camps!

I would be happy to loan the book to anyone interested,

Joan Burrage.

Children learn what they live Children learn what they live

If a child lives with criticism, it learns to condemn.

If a child lives with hostility, it learns to fight.

If a child lives with ridicule, it learns shyness.

If a child lives with shame, it learns guilt.

If a child lives with tolerance, it learns patience.

If a child lives with encouragement, it learns confidence.

If a child lives with praise, it learns appreciation.

If a child lives with fairness, it learns justice.

If a child lives with security, it learns faith.

If a child lives with approval, it learns acceptance.

And, if a child lives with love it learns **LOVE!**

“God without God”

by Michael Hampson. 2008

The book cover tells us that Michael Hampson has various degrees in Theology, Philosophy etc., and worked as an Anglican priest for 13 years. Now he is a writer and retreat leader.

The title of his book is completely striking. The writer explains this title by saying that he is against “presumptive monotheism” which the atheist uses as his reason to be an atheist, and not believe in the existence of God. Hampson sets out to find what happens to our western spiritual tradition when God the wrathful king is removed. Our belief in God can thus be liberated.

As a slow reader it took me many, many weeks to get through the book. Nearly a third of it is taken up with explanatory notes of parts of the text, many of which are very helpful. However on one point I take strong issue with the author – his way of expressing his views in Anglo Catholic terms. He is obviously high church, and quotes endlessly from the catechism and various Vatican pronouncements. It aggravates me that so many non non-conformist writers, write as if theirs was the only Church in our land. He is blinkered in his view of “The Church”.

Having said all that, this book has made a deep impression on me, as it puts into words what I have felt for a good deal of my adult life – without having the words to express those ideas myself.

Hampson says that if God is a god of love, then we must reject this “presumptive monotheism” of the wrathful, autocratic, revengeful, demanding king. He explains the names of God – Elohim Yahweh – being male and female, singular and plural; and compares them with the “I am” of God’s answer to Moses at the burning bush. So we have Elohim/ Eloah – the Sum of all Divinity; and Yahweh – the Ground of all Being.

If we acknowledge that, then we are in communion with the whole human race, with all religions. There is only one creation, only one Ground of all Being common to all.

God is beyond compare.

A wonderful quote from Thomas Aquinas concludes that we cannot categorise God.

That also includes the category of a Triune Being.

Hampson recognises that it is Christ that most explicitly joins God to humankind. Therefore, there is the “intriguing possibility” that a perfect human being would be a perfect image of God – both fully human and fully divine. This is our definition of the Christ.

God is a god of compassion, but if our fears are founded and there is, after all, an arbitrary God of wrath and condemnation, then we are lost already. If God is not a god of love, there is no hope and no point in believing.

But then I lose him as the writer speaks of the Mass and seven sacraments.

There are chapters on God, Ethics, the Bible, Creed, and Prayer.

Under Prayer, Hampson mentions Jesus as directly advising us to obtain our earthly needs – he, Jesus, does not mention prayer, but advises us not to concern ourselves with such matters. ‘Seek God’s kingdom and God’s righteousness’. Don’t worry about tomorrow. Then the author describes prayer in the Mass. All a little confusing, with too much reference to Anglo Catholicism.

One chapter is headed “Eros” – home life, sex and gender. The author writes of a 15,000 word Popish encyclical of 2005 on the subject of love.

The chapter is interesting and gives a necessary sympathetic slant on homosexuality and gender.

It’s long and complex, and now one realises from Hampson’s own comments that he is homosexual himself. When I realised what he was saying I was deeply disappointed. But he covers a wide range of subjects including ‘sex before marriage’, partnerships, single sex partnerships etc. “If the role and status of each partner is the same, the gender of each partner is irrelevant”. There is much more. “There is a continuous scale of gender from male to female”, which I think we would all readily accept.

“God without God” is really a book for committed Christians who may be dissatisfied with the way Church is going, or not going. Not all can be accepted. We must not ‘throw the baby out with the bath water’, but I for one am greatly impressed with the book.

Wilfred Rhodes. 20.10 2009

In the Epilogue Michael Hampson describes talking to some of his theological college contemporaries.

He asked them the question -

“Do you believe in God?”

Answer -

It depends what you mean by ‘God’. It depends what you mean by ‘believe’. It depends what you mean by ‘you’.

That’s it exactly!!

Easter in Shrewsbury

For Susie, Charlie, Joe and me, this year's Easter Sunday service was promiscuously spent in the metaphorical arms of another URC. The medieval town of Shrewsbury wasn't a random or arbitrary choice – Susie's parents live there and the URC on the banks of the river Severn is the church in which Susie and I made our vows back in 2002.

The church itself was built in 1863 and stands, essentially, in the middle of a large roundabout, by the town's eastern 'English Bridge', just outside the loop of the river that all but encircles the town. The shadow of the Abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, made famous in the Cadfael books and TV series, looms from the east.

Their car park always fills up quickly, even on a normal Sunday, so an early arrival was essential. Essential, but not achieved. By the time we finally arrived ten minutes before kick-off myriad cars were double, triple and even quadruple parked, much to the later consternation of those wishing to make a quick get away.

A friend of Susie's mother came over to us before the service began to apologise for talking to Charlie but repeatedly calling him Joe. She then proceeded to call Susie 'Gillie', her sister's name. However, as Gillie is younger and slimmer no great offence was taken!



Shrewsbury United Reformed Church

At a rough guess, the congregation numbered more than 240, some of whom only go to church for the 'big' occasions, which made it all the more surprising that only one person's mobile phone went off during the 90 minute service. Unfortunately it was mine. Although the sound of a pop song could have been inappropriate and embarrassing, as it happened during a rousing rendition of Thine Be The Glory I think I got away with it.

The sizeable choir, who, due to a lack of choir stalls, are dispersed amongst the congregation until needed, then assembled at the front and sang a piece specially written by the organist.



It's a Shrewsbury URC tradition that people bring flowers from their gardens to be attached to a large wooden cross, the raising of which was timed to occur during the final chorus of Lift High The Cross.

The service finished with the Hallelujah Chorus, a favourite which was sung with great gusto.

During the coffee and fellowship afterwards one of the Elders asked Joe if he knew why it was a special day. "Yes," he said beaming, "it's Daddy's birthday!" Not strictly incorrect, but also not quite the answer that was being sought...

Ryan Thomas

Articles for *The* CHRONICLE - Autumn edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by any of the following ways —

- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk**
- 2. Via the website - www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle**
- 3. By post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT**
- 4. — or in the red box located at the back of the Church.**

The last day for the Autumn Chronicle is 1 August 2010

Keep Smiling !

It was a quiet, cloudless and vapour-trail-less day with a bright, yellow sun riding high in the blue. Down below, at ground level, bright, smiling faces turned upwards, like reflections of that sun shining in the grass and flower borders. A warm feeling came over me. I looked down at them and thought how pretty, even beautiful, they looked. Then – I pulled their heads off! I felt like a murderer. But once I had started on my murderous quest, I decapitated even the smallest I could see. Next morning, I found a couple which had, though severely wounded, given birth overnight, their babies lying together in a silent bunch. Then I found one I had missed, smiling – no – grinning up at me. I pulled his head off, too.

Really, it was a waste of time, as there were still hundreds gathered in the untended garden next door, like participants in a mini-marathon, beaming their bright yellow smiles. Some, though, had grown more mature and had changed colour, their heads silver-grey. Some of their silvery locks were slipping from their heads and floating away on the breeze.

Yes, you've guessed. I'm talking about the dandelion invasion! However many heads I pull off, it will have little effect. If it has been pollinated, the plant usually finds strength to form its seeds, though they may not float as far as their naturally matured relatives. Then, too, if the long tap root is left, the plant will keep growing, a new stem will grow, new flowers will form.

Once they are pollinated, the flowers close up and droop as there is no need to attract the bees any more and after a while, the many flowerlet petals wither and fall. The seeds have been developing inside and now the plant prepares to disperse them. The flower heads start to stiffen and straighten up and proudly offer to the breeze a beautiful silver sphere. This is made up of seeds with ingenious little parachutes and they are soon transported near and far to land in their next toe-holds which before long are transformed into strongholds.

Well, they say weeds are only plants growing in the wrong place. Oh, like those Forget-me-nots? Or those Campanulas? Or those Spanish Bluebells? Like the Marjoram and Oregano, Feverfew and Borage, Mint and Lemon Balm? These last mentioned are herbs and we know they have culinary and medicinal uses.

So what about Dandelions? Does the name hold a clue? It is thought that the spreading jagged leaves look like Lions' teeth – in French, 'Dents de Lions'. But the French also call them 'Piss-en-lit'.

My grandmother did not like me to pick dandelions – she called them "Pee-beds", and believed that if I picked dandelions, I would be sure to wet the bed that night.

Taraxacum Officinale is its name, meaning 'The Official Remedy For Disorders' – a cure-all, perennial herb – free medicine in your own garden. It has been known as a diuretic for centuries and the herbalists of old times valued its power to purify the

blood and stimulate the bowels and kidneys. Its medicinal use was first recorded in the tenth century by an Arabian physician and herbalist.

The famous herbalist, Culpeper, said "See here what virtues this common herb hath, and that is the reason the French and Dutch so often eat them in the spring."

'The Dandelion makes a tonic and gentle diuretic, cleanses the system, helps to dissolve kidney stones, improves gastro-intestinal health and assists in weight reduction. Cleanses the skin and eliminates acne and is a good source of Vitamin A' (and much, much more!) Taken from "The Dandelion Celebration – The Guide to Unexpected Cuisine." By Peter Gall.

The Victorians valued dandelions highly as a springtime cleanser and grew them to quite a large size in their kitchen gardens . The rich people even grew them in their greenhouses for winter salads. It was thought that it would prevent port drinkers from contracting gout. Thin brown bread sandwiches filled with young dandelion leaves were often served for tea. The poor people, on the other hand, went out into the fields and dug the roots to sell to the chemist in order to buy bread.



Television advertisements now urge us to spend money on killing this precious commodity! Despite this, the dandelion is a very much harvested wild vegetable, but possibly in England, rabbits are usually the most grateful beneficiaries. In 'Wild Food' by Roger Phillips, he writes: "The young leaves are often eaten as a salad on the Continent, especially in France ... They are also served as a vegetable, cooked as spinach, or as a vegetable soup, and the flowers are fermented to make wine.

Dandelion roots may also be used in salads, grated or chopped – the two-year-old roots are best – but the roots are more frequently roasted and used as coffee.

Dandelion beer is a rustic, fermented drink, common at one time in many parts of the country and also in Canada. In the Midlands, dandelion stout was a favourite of the many herb beers brewed in the industrial towns. Dandelions were also fermented in combination with nettles and yellow dock."

If anyone is interested to learn more, I have recipes for: Dandelion Flower Wine; Dandelion Beer; Dandelion Fizz (made in the same way as Elderflower Fizz). Dandelion Soup; Dandelion and Ham Mould; Baked Dandelion Mould; Salade de Pissenlit / Pissenlit au Lard (with Bacon bits) ; Dandelion and

Beetroot Salad; Dandelion as a Vegetable; Dandelion Coffee.

Oh, look at the Dandelion Clock! Let's find out what time it is, spreading the seeds at the same time. Like blowing out candles on a birthday cake, it will take a very big puff to make it one o'clock!

At last the volcanic eruption has subsided and the skies are back to normal, full of our own man-made pollution. The sun may not be so bright, but the dandelions will be back shining in the grass.

From my own 'wild pickings' I have made Elderflower Champagne, Elderflower Cordial, Elderflower and Gooseberry Jam, Elderberry Cordial, Elderberry Chutney and Jam; Hawthorn Jelly and every one of the usual Blackberry recipes. Am I to ignore my new-found knowledge with all this treasure lying at my feet?

Are you wondering if I am trying to make a parable, a moral point? No, I'm not, but *you* can if you like. You probably have done so already, one way or another.

Dandelion Coffee, anyone?

Mary Connelly. April, 2010

SPRING HARVEST 2010

For almost the first time in our lives Eileen and I didn't go to 'church' on Easter Day. We were at Spring Harvest in Minehead, 180 miles away, from Easter Saturday until the following Thursday.

It was **FANTASTIC!**

I knew it would be a bit of a culture shock, but the main shock was the number of people of all ages, all types, all sorts! 5800 of us! It was the feeding of the 5000 – spiritual feeding – and 'physical' feeding too.

Spring Harvest has been 'going' for more than 30 years, and takes over the Butlin's holiday camp before it opens properly for the summer season. There's the usual white 'big top' tent with exhibitors, book stalls, meeting rooms, coffee bars, shops etc. Then there was another 'big top' tent erected specially for Spring Harvest that could seat up to 4000 people on bright red plastic seats. There we had the morning half hour praise and 'hands-in-the-air' session for all ages. Then there was a 1¼ hour Bible Study session each morning taken by Pete Greig, International Director of "24/7 Prayer", and he was BRILLIANT!

A series of talks took place after coffee, everything following the theme "Different Eyes" and Christian Ethics. These are different to the how the rest of the world sees because we don't follow a set of universal principles, we follow Jesus. And the whole week – and the two periods that followed after we had come home – followed that.

We chose meetings and seminars to attend according to our "learning style" – I was supposedly a 'theorist', and Eileen was both 'activist' and 'theorist'. [Aren't they all?!] So we stuck together with the theorists. And a Leadership Master class lead by Kate Coleman, former President of the Baptist Union.

Afternoons could also be busy, but we tended to relax in our room [nap – exhausted!].

After supper – and a good proportion of the 5800 had meals in the 3 restaurants – a 2¼ hour Evening Celebration was held in the Big Top.

It was NOISY! The singing and music was very loud, very modern, and great!! Different speakers each evening went through the whole of the Book of Esther, and included Ruth Dearnley, CEO of "Stop the Traffik"; and Jackie Pullinger, who flew in specially from Hong Kong. Both were exceptionally good. Jackie Pullinger spoke in a way we had never experienced before. Her eyes see quite differently to anyone else. We have a CD of one of her talks, and a DVD of her main evening talk, and we hope to invite a group to watch/listen to these.

There was so much to do we couldn't attend every talk. I took notes of some of the seminars, but haven't used them in this article as my head is buzzing with all that happened, and could fill this Chronicle!

Wilfred Rhodes.

Eileen's impressions of Spring Harvest.

- The "WOW" factor – being with 5800 like-minded people of all ages. Worshipping together in the Big Top – great experience! Eating together – company good, but food – well let's not mention that!
- Being on the beach at 7 a.m. on Easter Morning with about 1000 others to worship the risen Christ as the sun appeared from behind a cloud. A not-to-be-missed experience!
- Seeing through Different Eyes (the theme of Spring Harvest 2010). Learning to live well – ethically, richly, fully. Paul's messages to us to live lives worthy of God and the calling we have received (1Thess. 2:12, Col. 1:10, Ephesians 4:1, Phil. 1:27.)
- "People shouldn't be bought and sold" – hearing Ruth Dearnley CEO of 'Stop the Traffik' giving an excellent presentation. When people ACT things change. [Active Communities against Trafficking.] Change, she said, comes from the bottom up. "Make me a channel of your peace".
- Hearing Jackie Pullinger speak. She certainly sees things through different eyes.
Wondering whether others would like to go to Spring Harvest next year??

Eileen Rhodes.

AUTUMN CHRONICLE CLOSING DATES - Page 23

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Sunday Morning at 9.15
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

Publication Team :-

Proof Reading: Beryl Richardson

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Grace Ralph. Telephone 01903 690714
Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
10 Cuckfield Crescent, Worthing, BN13 2ED

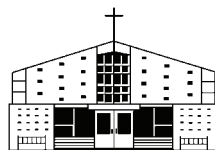
Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT
chronicle@gurc.org.uk

The Chronicle costs approximately 75p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.


www.gurc.org.uk

The CHRONICLE

Autumn 2010

Coming Shortly -

Festival of Light

- Skating Rink
 - Organ Recital
 - International Dancing
 - Disco Sessions
 - Refreshments
 - Fairtrade Stall & Fashion Show
- 

27 - 30 October 2010

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

GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

E-Mail: thesecretary@gurc.org.uk

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day

17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX

Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper

27 West Park Lane, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP

Telephone: 07779 759658 E-Mail: thesecretary@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

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

Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.uk

Church Secretary at St Andrew's: Miss Pat Thomson

37 The Grangeway, Rustington, Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN16 2QS

Telephone: 01903 776226 E-Mail: pat@pathomson.fsnet.co.uk

Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 67 - No. 624

Autumn 2010

Front cover :

Festival of Light

- Please support this event and remember it in your prayers.
- If you haven't offered to help yet, please consider it — we shall be very pleased if you are able to help.

More information from Mary Redman
01903 692218

Contents

Minister's message 2

The Local Church & Groups

A few goodbyes	4
Fellowship meetings	5
Pilots Day Out	6
Mediawatch-UK	8

Ruth & Mamy's Newsletter

No. 53 from Congo-Brazzaville
August 2010 is available at the
back of the Sanctuary.

If you cannot collect a copy I can
email one to you. Please ask —
chronicle@gurc.org.uk

Articles for The CHRONICLE - Winter edition

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The last day for the Winter Chronicle articles is 1 November 2010

A Leap of Faith !

How would you react if someone said to you 'go take a running jump?'

That was the instruction I received whilst on holiday in Turkey back in June. Let me explain; I thought it would be a good idea to try out paragliding. So I booked a flight, I was picked up from our hotel in a Landover that had seen better days; I was squashed in to the open back section to join five other subdued pensive victims. Up and up we climbed driving along dusty mountain tracks, through dense pine forests coming perilously close to the edge as we rounded impossibly tight hairpin bends at speed. After what seemed an age (actually 50 minutes) we arrived at the takeoff zone.



This was a 45-degree slope as big as a football pitch dipping away to a 2,000-meter sheer drop off the edge of the mountain. I was issued with an emergency parachute and crash helmet. I enquired if parachutes have been used much, I was told only three times this week, the group of instructors reassured me they were only joking, three times in about ten years.

Just as well because we had no instruction of how to deploy the thing. Health and safety is not a big issue here so it seems. My Turkish instructor Ali told me to "walk to the edge I will then attach you to the harness". This was the worse bit as the strong mountain breeze buffeted me and did its best to make me lose my balance. I think they do this to test your nerve. I got to where I was meant to be leaning back into the mountain so as not to slide off the dusty slope too soon. Ali true to his word attached the harness with the reassuring snap of a karabiner; he gave the following instruction "Andrew my friend when I say 'now' you run a little and jump off the edge, ha, ha indeed go and take a running jump as you say in Britannia (this was his well practiced joke intended to relax the petrified rookie).

Oh, by the way you have to time it just right otherwise you get blown back and crash into the side of the mountain and plunge to the ground!"



He was chuckling when he said the last bit. After a few seconds I heard the word 'now' and went into action, soon we were lifted violently by a thermal and rapidly gained a few hundred feet, up and away from the mountaintop. The rest as they say was plain sailing, 30 minutes or so of drifting back down to earth.



The point to this story is where do we place our trust where do we place our faith. The para bit of the para glider is a strip of thin nylon that can be folded up and placed in a supermarket carrier bag. About 40 thin cords attached the para wing to a webbing harness, by tugging at the cords you can steer and control the wing like a kite.

So then on that mountain top I put my complete trust in a man I had never met before and in the theory that this small scrap of material would at least break my fall, even facilitate a pleasurable flying experience. We so often put trust and faith in people and things, in investments and in governments. It amazes me that as humans we find it so hard to put our trust and faith in our heavenly father, the Creator of the universe and all that is in it, the Son who came among us showing a better way and the Holy Spirit source of all knowledge and power. The argument goes - well seeing is believing.

People say they can't see God so it's hard to believe. I saw that strip of nylon lying on the ground. Was it just because I saw it that I believed it would work? No, there is more to it than that; *John 20²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*

Belief and faith take on different qualities, you may believe all the theories about gravity, thermals, lift, drag coefficient, a qualified instructor, but it is a kind of faith that takes you off the edge of the mountain. It is that leap of faith that takes you from the head knowledge to the heart knowledge of Jesus. You may know the Bible, the prayer book and the theory of Christian living you may believe all those things but it is faith that puts them into action.



Yours, with both feet on the ground Andrew
PS the name printed on the paraglider wing was CARUS! ?

Andrew

A Couple of Goodbyes

Peter Newell: A few weeks ago we said "Goodbye" to our dear friend Peter Newell who has now moved away to live nearer his family. We all wish him good health and every happiness in his new home.

Vera Irving: Now as I write, I bring news of another dear friend, Vera Irving, who is moving from her Storrington home also to be nearer her family. Many will remember her and Ken, her late husband, who were staunch and active members of the Church for many years. Ken was an Elder and served on the Finance Group and Vera worked with the children in Junior Church for some time until her sight deteriorated. It has been a matter of sadness that she has not been well enough to worship with us in recent years but we wish her every happiness as she moves to Suffolk into a "granny flat" in the home of one of her sons.

God bless you both, love from us all. *Doreen Norris*

Summer Chronicle

I have been inspired to put pen to paper to say thank you to Graham for the wonderful Summer Chronicle. It was such a good read! - Lovely articles and items about the many different aspects of the church life.

Andrew's thought provoking letter; moving tributes to Alec Ralph - still sadly missed; news of our fellowship and reports from the organisations - The Ark, Pilots, Kestro and Tuesday Fellowship. Ryan's letter about Shrewsbury URC was very amusing. There was lots of input from members and friends, and all the very exciting plans for our Festival of Light in October.

Thanks also to Wilf and Eileen for their enthusiastic write-up of Spring Harvest. It makes me want to go.

However, Graham has made it clear that the magazine it is not wholly of his doing. He can, of course, only print what he is given, by you, or me, or whoever is moved to provide copy for him.

Thank you to Mary Connelly! - I will look at dandelions in a new light and with great respect for them from now on.

Yes the summer one was great, lots of interests from many directions but if there is a dearth of items, which next time would make for a smaller less interesting edition - that would be a shame. Please keep your pieces coming or we could lose this precious resource.

Doreen Norris

John Gordon

Our friend John Gordon has left Bognor U.R.C to take over Lewes and Hailsham churches.

Lewes is URC/Methodist, and Hailsham is all Methodist, and he will be in a United Area. He will live in the Hailsham manse.

His farewell service was held at Bognor on Sunday 11th July, and he and his family were given a farewell party on Saturday 17th July.

John was a member of this church and Rev William Connelly was instrumental, with others, in guiding him into the ministry. Mr Connelly gave him much advice and training before college.

John was ordained in 1996 and has been at Bognor Regis since 2002.

His induction will be on October 9th probably at the Lewes church, but a time is not known at the moment. Sad to say the Bognor church will close and its members move to Pagham, a church for which John was also responsible.

Wilfred Rhodes

Fellowship Meetings

The last couple of meetings have been very enjoyable to me personally and I think everyone else who attended.

Oh poor Bobby she organized her annual Garden party but the weather was not so kind to her. Never mind thought Bobby, "I will organize my garden party in the Cornwall Room instead". What a lovely job she did of it too. We had a quiz game where we had to name something beginning with a certain letter for example name a musical instrument beginning with the letter M and the answer was Mandolin. and we were NOT to shout the answer out we had to put our hand up. We had some laughs over that too I can tell you. Bless you Bobby I did enjoy your afternoon. A big thank you.

Carole and Peggy took the last afternoon. They spoke about the dolls houses they furnish Peggy does the more well known ones for her Grandchildren to play with and arrange for themselves when they come to see her. Carole furnishes them for her own hobby so hers are more intricate I found it interesting to see little things that my own Nan. used to use.

I thought the things Carole brought along for us to look at that I knew were very realistic looking. Again a good and interesting afternoon ladies. Thank you. I hope I've whetted your appetite for you to join us when we meet again on September.

Janet Dean



Pilot's Day Out

Everything needs a bit of good fortune. Pilots Day Out to Moor Valley Park, at Ringwood had a large slice (the sun shone) and everyone had a super day.

Those of you who know the Adur Community Transport Bus will know that it is not the most elegant machine. It is also known to have more than the occasional hiccup. You will be pleased to know that within the fleet there are more swish, modern vehicles. On Saturday we had one. Swish, modern and silver!

One small problem presented itself to the driver (yours truly). Where was the filler cap? Although the tank was almost full, I could not find the filler cap anywhere. I looked. Time marched on. I drove with apprehension to the church. All were present, expectant. I explained my dilemma. 'I know' said Simon- not renowned for being the fount of all knowledge-and promptly pointed to a flap by the side of the passenger door which required the opening of said door to open the flap. Hey presto-filler cap! I did not hear anyone say 'All aboard' in true Pilots fashion, but all aboard is what we did.

Along the Littlehampton Road the red of horse chestnut trees in full blossom was a sight to gladden the eye. The sun was shining.

The sky was a brilliant blue. Aeroplane vapour trails chased each other towards far horizons.

On the silver arrow there was no singing, just the buzz of excited voices. The 'Are we there yet?' cry started at the top of Titnore Lane but was soon silenced.

A stop for necessities was taken after about an hour then we pressed on. A sign to the park took us along rhododendron lined roads and we were there.

The adventure park is cut into a pine forest on the edge of the New Forest

Administration was minimal but as we queued Katelyn noticed a House Martin sitting in a nest amongst the open rafters above our heads some 15 feet up. The bird was apparently unperturbed by the noise of countless excited children, some oblivious of her presence.



We moved into the park. LUNCH! Oh dear!! Yours truly was the only one NOT to have followed the written instructions (NO fizzy drinks and NO chocolate).

My lovely lady wife makes excellent packed lunches, but can't read-she says I never told her, can you believe that? I ate my lunch alone and enjoyed the drinks.

We were split into two groups. The ones with the short straw came with me- Jonathan (no longer a child and certainly not in need of my care) Ruth and Rosie (young ladies who, with some justification don't consider themselves in need of my care) David and Callum (definitely consider themselves men about town) and Colette (just happy to be considered able to be with the bigger ones).

Once in the forest park Pilots played on a variety of wooden structures some in the shape of snails, snakes

yes snakes, stag beetles, spiders webs and crocodiles and more. Someone, Colette I think, got stuck in the snail!

As we moved from one adventure to another a slight breeze rose. I asked my group to stop and listen to the sound. At that precise moment a fir cone dropped right by the side of Ruth. The resultant scream probably brought down all the rest of the pine cones in the forest. So much energy was being used Val decided to trek to collect more fluids. Colette was a bright red colour.

A ride on the train, a steam one, was next but not before the obligatory ice cream. Whilst gorging we saw a crested grebe and two swans on the lake amongst a great many ducks. I was accused of making too much noise on the train ride. Bett said I whooped too loudly. Would I do such a thing?!



By the time we got to the play centre, climbing frames, slides, swings etc., the two groups had merged into one. Jonathan resorted to being in child mode. Charlie and Katelyn were inseparable.

Some very exhausted children clambered back aboard the silver arrow. Most were asleep in minutes. It was a privilege to have enjoyed the children enjoying themselves.

The work put in to the organization by Val and Bett was seen to produce a very pleasant day for all. It must have been good because Janet got away without making a single cup of tea all day! I know I enjoyed it!! - Vic Jay

MEDIAWATCH-UK

Do you remember Mary Whitehouse? Do you remember her 'Clean Up TV Campaign'? Following the huge public support for this campaign Mary Whitehouse founded, in 1965, Mediawatch-UK.

Graphic violence, gratuitous sex and obscene language are so common on TV that you could be forgiven for thinking that broadcasters are permitted to transmit anything they like. This is not the case! Parliament has approved laws which say that programmes must meet with 'generally accepted standards' and that the public should be protected from 'offensive and harmful material'.

The law is being ignored and your rights are being overridden in the quest for ratings and profit.

Mediawatch-UK is making a difference by campaigning against violent, sexually explicit and obscene material in the media.

They encourage people to think and talk about the effects of violent entertainment, pornography and obscene language on society.

They lobby and provide information to government ministers and campaign for effective reform of the law on obscenity. Mediawatch-UK is regularly invited to participate in television and radio programmes, and campaigns for the right to use the internet without being exposed to inappropriate and offensive images and text.

How can we help?

By supporting the work of Mediawatch-UK (£15 a year)

By making your voice heard by email, telephone or in writing to Ofcom, broadcasters, the British Board of Film Classification, the press and your MP.

It's a fact that only 3% of viewers contact the broadcasters to make their views known. If we do not make our views known we are silently condoning what is transmitted and broadcasters will not improve their standards.

"If violence is shown as normal on the television screen it will help to create a violent society." Mary Whitehouse CBE

For further information contact:

Mediawatch-UK
3 Willow House
Kennington Road
Ashford, Kent
TN24 0NR

Telephone: 01233 633936

Email: info@mediawatchuk.org

Website: www.mediawatchuk.org.uk/

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	Alternate Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Mid-week Holy Communion	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Sunday Morning at 9.15
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

Publication Team :-

Proof Reading:

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Grace Ralph. Telephone 01903 690714
Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
10 Cuckfield Crescent, Worthing, BN13 2ED

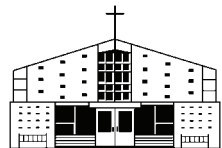
Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT
chronicle@gurc.org.uk

The Chronicle costs approximately 75p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Grace Ralph (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.

www.gurc.org.uk



The

CHRONICLE

Winter 2010/11

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

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



GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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

E-Mail: thesecretary@gurc.org.uk

Web site: www.gurc.org.uk

Minister: Rev Andrew Sellwood - Friday rest day

17 Drummond Road, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4DX

Telephone 01903 248259

Church Secretary: Mrs Valerie Cooper

27 West Park Lane, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex. BN12 4EP

Telephone: 07779 759658 E-Mail: thesecretary@gurc.org.uk

Church Treasurer: Mr Matthew Smith

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

Telephone: 01903 873265 E-Mail: treasurer@gurc.org.uk

Church Secretary at St Andrew's: Miss Pat Thomson

37 The Grangeway, Rustington, Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN16 2QS

Telephone: 01903 776226 E-Mail: pat@pathomson.fsnet.co.uk

Worship in the Church Sanctuary

Sundays

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

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

- Family service monthly as announced

- Junior Church with Crèche

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

Mid-week

10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month

Contents

The CHRONICLE

Vol. 67 - No. 625

Winter 2010

Front cover :

The church after a snow fall before Christmas last year.

Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Spring CHRONICLE magazine is the 1 February.

www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle



Minister's message 2

The Local Church & Groups

- Christmas services 4
- Festival of Light and Skating 6
- Fellowship meetings 10
- Christmas Themed Codeword 11
- The Ark news 12
- Table Tennis 13
- Westminster College 14
- The Chronicle 17

Main Hall & Cornwall Room

- Kestro Club 18
- Singasaurus 20
- ADA Worthing Group 22
- Rowland Singers Choral Society 24
- Slimming World 26
- Natural History Society 27
- Bee-Fit Children's Fun 28

Extras

- Spicy Red Tomato Chutney 29
- Which Day is it today 30
- Goring Neighbourhood 31
- Puzzle. What's in the Chronicle? 32

In a recent issue of a local newspaper, this garden centre advertisement appeared:



“SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN! ‘Tis the season... come help us welcome Jolly Old Father Christmas this Friday evening at 7:00p.m.....”

The date? November 12th!

At about this time of year I usually get grumpy and bemoan the encroachment of materialism on this Holy season. I can fault the merchants and marketers. But during these economically challenging times this is all about survival for them. My sympathy goes out to any one trying to make a living at this time. My attention then turns to the church I may even be heard to say “why does the church organise so much during this season?” We get so worked up about the planning ‘Who is going to get the candles for the carol service? Will they be a fire hazard? What about health and safety? or

where do we place the Christmas tree in a liturgical manner? Then the debate ensues ‘is it the done thing to have a pagan symbol in church anyway? But what is really at the back of my mind through this grumpiness is – are we putting Jesus at the centre of all of this activity? Or does the church even get side tracked by all that glitters? Despite all of what Christmas has become there is still much that is positive. That is what we need to focus on and build upon, peace and good will to all.

We must also remember Christmas looks different for different people.

For some there will be family... sometimes too much family. Some must cope with parents who will be hurt if you don't celebrate with them. For others there will be no family— perhaps children are spending this year with their 'other half's' family you may face the prospect of an empty house. Perhaps you are single—of any age—without children, and the walls of your home may echo with aloneness.

Too many people or too few, enough money but few to spend it on, or not enough money for even the basics. A calendar with every square crammed with activities and social events or a calendar glaringly empty. How can we begin to truly savour the coming days and not merely survive them?

Prepare yourself: "Be still and know that I am God."

Be STILL?? How ridiculous when there is so much to do, yet this has to be an absolute prerequisite for this season. Just ten minutes of quiet before the day explodes into frantic activity (or perhaps, ten minutes at night when the day winds down) are absolute necessities.

Advent will find us re-reading the New Testament accounts of Jesus' birth and life. Along with this we may choose poetry and meditations from some of our

favourite writers. These daily few minutes of stillness are the essential foundation for all else that occurs during the season.

Amidst all the activity remember Mary a humble Jewish girl sang a song of praise even though her circumstances were difficult (and about to get more difficult), her family probably would not understand her and she had no idea of the stark reality of her future. This is a paraphrase of part of Mary's song that puts things into place.

"My soul chooses to glorify the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for He is always mindful of me and my situation... The Mighty One has done great things for me...holy is His name. His mercy extends to all those who fear him, from all past generations, to me and to all those to come. He has performed mighty deeds even for me... He continues to fill my hungry soul with good things. He has helped me, His servant; He remains merciful to me even as he promised." Luke 1: 46ff.

Therefore today—and all through this coming season of holy days,

Stand quiet before Him. Stand still; know that He is God Emmanuel."

Peace and joy Andrew



Christmas Services

Goring United Reformed Church

Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by Sea
www.gurc.org.uk

Sunday 19 December

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|----|
| 10.30–11.30am | Lessons and Carols | ** |
| 6.00–7.00pm | Carols by candlelight | ** |

Christmas Eve

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|----|
| 5.00–5.30pm | Nativity Service | ** |
| | - Fun for children and families. | |
| 11.30pm–12.15am | Midnight Communion | |

Christmas Day

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--|
| 10.30–11.30am | Family Worship | |
|---------------|----------------|--|

Boxing Day, Sunday 26 December

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|--|
| 10.30–11.30am | Family Worship | |
|---------------|----------------|--|

*Notes:- ** Denotes refreshments available after the service*



'THE NATIVITY' ON BBC THIS CHRISTMAS

Four episodes of a new production by Tony Jordan are to be broadcast early evening during the week leading up to Christmas.

Don't let anyone miss this opportunity to engage with the real Christmas. Spread the word inside and outside your churches.

BBC Press Release

Category: TV Drama; BBC One; BBC One HD; Wales




The Nativity – introduction

With Mary and Joseph's enduring love story at the centre this familiar story is given a contemporary twist, as the drama follows Joseph and Mary from their initial courtship – Joseph desperate to win the heart of Mary – to his emotional turmoil at her unexpected pregnancy.

The Nativity BBC1 and BBC1HD at 7.00pm
Monday 20, Tuesday 21, Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 December

Festival of Light



“Wow!” This is the word that springs to mind when I think of all we achieved at our Festival of Light in October.

When I originally thought of the idea (ok – pinched the idea from a church in Chichester!) I couldn't have imagined the impact it would have on us and our community. So many people have said that they feel more part of the church family and have talked to more people as a result of working together so closely. I cannot thank you all enough for the support you have given and I'm sure we would all agree that the hard work was worth it.

The final total raised for St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree House was £2900 which was more than any of us thought. Plans are underway to arrange a handover of the money raised to the very grateful staff and patients of the two hospices. A big thank you here goes to our sponsors, we wouldn't have raised nearly as much money without your support.

But more than that, we saw nearly a thousand people come through our doors, some of whom know us anyway, others of whom had not set foot in a church ever.



B
St Barnabas
House

{ Hospice
Care }

C
Chestnut
Tree House

{ Children's
Hospice Care }

Several rumours were dispelled; "I must bring several layers, churches are always cold", "Everyone was so friendly", "Am I allowed to put my feet here", "Thank you for such a fun experience", and people from our neighbourhood kept coming back for more.

Did you miss out? Some of us were away during the week and missed out on all the fun. Don't worry, there is already talk of repeating the event next year. If you would like to help out there will be plenty of opportunities!

Mary Redman



Festival of Light

Our Sponsors for the Festival of Light were the following organisations and people.

Many church members also supported the event financially. We are pleased to say that £1450 is to be presented to each of St Barnabas and Chestnut Tree House Hospices.

Thank you all for your support.



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Fellowship Meetings

- During September our guest speaker was a representative from an organization - Mercy Ships. They are vessels that sail to the Third World bringing with them aid in the form of hospitals. I thought what a good idea. I have never heard of them before so was interested to learn about that organization and the work that they do.

- More recently we had a visit from Mary Helyar. David, her husband, now retired, was Southern Synod Moderator when I came here 14 years ago.

Mary gave a lovely talk and one I am glad to have had the privilege to report on. They started their ministry in Ashford Kent as a young family. Then later in Croydon. They have 3 boys so Mary was a very busy minister's wife. When I say busy I mean busy. They had a lot of people turn up on their doorstep including an armed robber. Now let me explain. This presumed reformed prisoner came wanting shelter so after talking to the man David decided to let him stay for the night. Needless to say no harm came to David or Mary. Mary started toddler groups. It was in the days when these things weren't so prolific as they are today and there were no paedophiles to worry about then either as they were unheard of in those days. Mary explained that when David was promoted to a moderator he was like a bishop and he had many churches to look after including Goring. That is Mary's talk in a nutshell. A big thank you Mary for an interesting afternoon. God bless you both in your retirement.

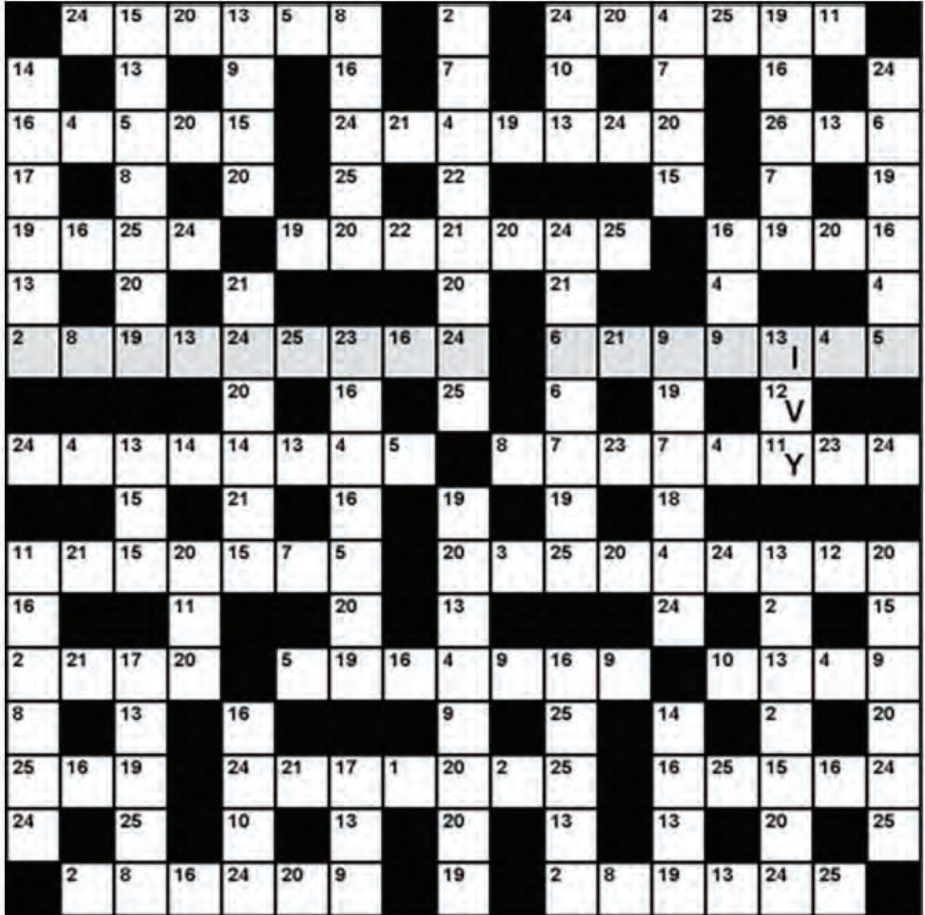
- Then towards the end of November we had Mac, a good musician from 'One to One' visit. He brought with him some fancy equipment and could make a song sound Country and Western or traditional or whatever style people like. Yes, he let us choose sometimes. We had Christmas songs, Elvis, Cockney - all sorts and I am sure I speak for everyone in the Fellowship when I say it was an enjoyable afternoon.

Next we will have our Christmas celebrations. Well that's it for this session. In the Spring Carole will do the report but after that I will do the reports for this group with pleasure.

Janet Dean

Christmas Themed Codeword Puzzle

A codeword puzzle with a few words connected to the festive season thrown in.



© 2010 www.biblequizzes.org.uk

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Y	V	I

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

The Ark



Autumn News from the Ark - a group for adults with babies and toddlers.

As I write there are only two more meetings before another holiday. Once again the term has flown by, and we are already preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We will make party hats for our last meeting, and we hope to see the Christmas show produced by Little Fishes Pre-School.

Every week the Ark is different - it just depends on who comes, the weather, coughs colds etc. and the grown-up's other commitments.

Usually 12 - 15 adults will come with their little ones to enjoy some time together. Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers and other relatives are always welcome to join in.

We spend a lot of time chatting over refreshments and watching the children develop their social skills as they encounter one another, learn to take turns, and share the toys.

The morning speeds by with an assortment of toys for the children to play with plus play-do, a slide and a Wendy house with cooker, and cups and plates etc. When an hour or so has gone we pack away and gather around the piano for singing with instruments, and sometimes a story.

This term we have limited our 'craft' table to colouring and leaf prints, because neither this term's children nor their adults have been very interested in sticking or making but between us we filled a shoe box for the Samaritan's Purse Appeal, and even have plenty to put towards next year's shoe box

Sometimes we sing action songs, mixed in with nursery rhyme favourites, but the end of the session is always heralded by the singing of *The Wheels on the Bus*. This is a tradition of the Ark which has been running now for 22 years. Now the children who came at the beginning are, in turn, bringing their children !

Hilary Redman

Samaritans Purse Christmas Shoe Boxes

Thank you to all who donated a shoebox.
A total of 26 boxes were dropped off last week.

For the future I am looking at alternative arrangements for the shoebox appeal. I hope to bring this to the Church meeting in November.

Bett Swierk

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The Table Tennis club was formed in 2005 to accommodate people in the Church who wished to be physically active. The main hall, although marked out, was really not big enough for badminton and as we were all retired it sounded too energetic for us.

There was bats and nets. So off we started in the East Hall [alas no more], with about seven people, fortunately some of us knew the rules.

Since those days of long ago we now In the Main Hall, mostly, but sometimes in the Cornwall Room, and have two tables and a membership of about twenty who come and go as they please on either a Tuesday or Friday morning.

Some of our members are extremely good players, and the rest of us - well - not so good, but we all mix together and sometimes the games are good and sometimes not so good but we have fun just being together.

I think I am right in saying that during our break for coffee, tea and the inevitable biscuits, we really appreciate getting to know other members of the church who we do not have time to speak to after the services.

We also entertain other members of our families who may be visiting us aging from 8 -to ?? and they usually enjoy themselves.

We enjoy a Christmas meal out, once we can agree on a day - we are all so busy, but we thank God for our health and strength to keep on playing Table Tennis.

Sheila Gooderham

An Open Night -

The Table Tennis club had an open night on Saturday 20th November when everyone was invited to come and "have a go".

As newcomers, we received a very warm welcome and were gradually introduced to the ups & downs of the game, and to the regular members.

There were 7 or 8 of us newcomers who found ourselves enjoying a very pleasant evening. A wonderful selection of refreshments were served half way through, after which we still managed to play on until 9.30.

Sincere thanks to all who worked so hard to give us three hours of entertainment and fun. *Mike & Rosina Bayley*

Westminster College : September 2010

So we went to Cambridge, Rosina and I ... three days of interesting sessions, discussion, and an opportunity to exchange news, learn new things and develop old ideas.

This was the Lay Preachers and Worship Leaders meeting at Westminster College, Cambridge, one of the URC's Ministerial Training colleges. Led by Westminster College teaching staff – this year's broad theme was 'Evangelism'. We met together - some with only a little and others with many years experience. There was time for worship, reflection, good food and friendship.

The title was taken from the URC's Vision for Life theme 2010/11 which is the "Year of Evangelism."

On the first evening, after supper, we began with Old Testament Studies: Rev Dr Janet Tollington spoke enthusiastically about "A light for the nations". Taking this phrase from Isaiah where it appears twice, she began to unravel the Old Testament understanding of Evangelism. She quoted from Brueggemann on Genesis 12:3 who says that the life of Israel under the promise of God will energise and be a model way for other nations to receive a blessing from God.

She said "perhaps this gives us one way of understanding 'evangelism' – the idea of being people, or a community, living out our Christian faith in the world as witnesses to the whole work of God. In this way we become the conduit through which God can bless and save the nations." ('Nations' in the Old Testament = gentiles. The People = Israel, the chosen people of God).

Janet also led our evening prayers in the chapel before we made our way to bed, in expectation of a good couple of days to follow. It seemed a long time since getting on the train in the morning!!

* * * * *

Breakfast was followed by morning prayers led by Rev Dr John Procter. He teaches New Testament studies at Westminster College, and began the first session "Setting out Rural Mission in the New Testament". He spoke from Matthew chapter 10 - Jesus' ministry in the villages of Galilee. After coffee he spoke about Urban Mission in the New Testament speaking of Caesarea as described in the Acts of the Apostles; Caesarea with its various faces, cultural differences and functions within its historical setting. He finished by

posing some searching questions about our responsibility to our own community and to the next generation of Christians.

* * * * *

A sunny afternoon 'doing our own thing' in Cambridge was followed by an early evening session before supper. This time Rev Dr John Bradbury spoke about 'Presiding at sacraments'.

"What is a sacrament?" Augustine described it: "A visible sign of an invisible grace"

John concentrated on the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, as described by Paul in his letter to the Corinthians, [1 Corinthians 11: 23-29] He went on to follow the development of this sacrament from earliest times until the formation of the URC, and what the URC says about presidency.

* * * * *

Supper. Then a look at various Evangelism resources with Rev Dr Neil Thorogood.

* * * * *

The last day came, and morning prayers were led by Rev Dr Susan Durber, the college principal. She then led the first morning session "Altar call: how are worship and evangelism related?" She explored with us the various paths to faith, laying out some of the responsibilities of the Christian Church, both locally and internationally.

After a coffee break Janet Tollington brought Jonah to life for us in a session "The Book of Jonah" A book full of narrative and teaching drawn from the figure of Jonah the most unwilling evangelist of all!

She summed up: "It is a story that relates to evangelism in several ways: Jonah is a very reluctant 'missionary'; he accomplishes God's purposes



even when running away; he doesn't know the impact his presence has had on the sailors and how they respond to God; he demonstrates how non-believers are sometimes more open to recognise the true nature of God than those among God's people who are convinced that they know all about God and God's ways" She ends in parentheses (it also offers us hope that God can and will work through us, even if we get lots of things wrong!)

So ended a super, if fully packed, three days of study, learning,

fellowship and fun.

Both Rosina and I have put our names on the list for 2011. We are looking forward to it.

Whilst we were there we raised a considerable amount of excitement amongst our colleagues as we told them about our proposed Festival of Light with Skating rink. There were those there who offered to pray for our initiative and some who hoped to come. All wished us well, and were looking forward to hearing how we got on

Hilary Redman

Use of the Halls

On the following pages there are articles written from some of the people and organisations that use our Main Hall and Cornwall Room week by week.

If you have not written anything this year or your article has not been included, you may like to think about it for next year - tell us about some of the interesting things you will have done during the course of the year and what you are going to do.

Some of the groups are either run by church members, or have church members taking part. Some have connections with other churches, and still others belong to no church at all. All views are therefore not necessarily those of the United Reformed Church.

Next Year's Chronicles

During next year I hope to run a series of articles which may enable us to get to know one another better.

If you can write something about any one or two of the following I shall be pleased to hear from you, but please keep the total word count to under about 700 - that will fill about two pages..

- A favourite Bible verse, Hymn or Song.
- What did you do or do you do for a living?
- Tell us about your family
- Tell us about a favourite holiday
- If you could have dinner with anyone in history who would it be and why?
- What interesting events have you taken part in, in this Church or a previous Church?
- Tell us about a favourite hobby or past-time.
- What achievements would you like to tell us about.

It is very worthwhile to include a picture or two, as we all know they help to make the article more interesting, and break up the text. *Graham Redman*

Articles for The CHRONICLE - Spring 2011 edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by any of the following ways —

- 1. E-Mail to chronicle@gurc.org.uk**
- 2. Via the website - www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle**
- 3. By post to Graham Redman
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT**

The last day for the Spring Chronicle is 1 February 2011

Articles for The CHRONICLE

KESTRO

Worthing & District Stroke Club

KESTRO is an anagram of the word STROKE and was selected as the name for the club which exists for the benefit of those people who are recovering from the effects of a stroke. It is affiliated to the Stroke Association. Although all its founders were church members there are no denominational ties and all persons are welcome, irrespective of their religious beliefs or otherwise. Indeed, initially the club did not meet on church premises, but in a hall in Heene Road. It was sometime later that the weekly meetings of members moved to the church hall here in Shaftesbury Avenue.

The aims of the club are to provide a regular meeting place for those wishing to join, provide entertainment by way of visiting speakers, games and outings; provide an opportunity for social interaction; share experiences and

possibly form friendships. An opportunity for exercise is offered weekly except on the days when outings are arranged. Members are kept up to date with the advances in the treatment of strokes and information is often provided on such topics as security, social benefits etc. disseminated from police, local councillor and other charitable organisations. Through contact with Worthing College and volunteers organisations we are able to provide 'hands on' experience for young people who are trying to enhance their C.V's or are simply looking to benefit themselves and the community. The fact that the club exists and members attend also has the effect of providing respite, albeit short, for relatives, carers etc. The club meets every Friday afternoon between 2.00p.m. and 4.00p.m.

After people have gathered we leap into action with the exercise routines. There is nothing compulsory about anything we do and there are varying degrees of enthusiasm for working out. The aim is to maintain or increase the mobility of members. Next comes tea and at least a biscuit. Notices, information, birthday wishes (as applicable) come next followed by a weekly raffle. Then games (dominoes, card bingo, scrabble) or a quiz. Alternatively a speaker has been arranged or an entertainer.

The club provides a mini bus service and some of our members avail themselves of its help to and from the club. Others provide their own

transport or rely on our ever helpful volunteers, without whom the club would not exist.

If you are reading this and have the time and the inclination to help in any way please give us a call, or go to our website where details of our past exploits can be found. Also if you know of anyone who is a stroke sufferer and would like some entertainment and stimulus please let us know .

*Vic Joy [Secretary]
01903 240688*

or visit

*www.kestro.wordpress.com
[\[gurc.org.uk/kestro\]](http://gurc.org.uk/kestro)*

5				7		1	
		4		6		3	
	6			1		5	4
4			8			2	
		8		5			9
	4	2		9			6
	8		5			4	
	9		3				7

Easy

5	9				1	8	
3			8	5			
		7		2			9
6						7	5
	3						1
	4	9					2
	1			7		2	
				1	8		
							5
		8	6				4
							7

Difficult

The solution can be found on the table at the back of the church.

Singasaurus

Hi! My name is Cathy Elliott, I started running the Singasaurus Music Group in September 2005. I have two children of my own and have always enjoyed musical interaction with them both, pre-natally and continuing to the present day.



So why chose Singasaurus?

- Singasaurus is independently owned and not a franchise
- All music is presented in a baby friendly way
- I use a guitar and other instruments to enhance the sessions
- Children are introduced to classical music, multi-cultural music, folk music.
- Children have the opportunity to express themselves musically too
We always have great fun!



The enjoyment of music was just always there in my life, and for this I am eternally grateful to my parents, music teachers and choir mistress.

Singasaurus Hatchlings is the first step on the Singasaurus journey, introducing the little ones to a world of musical stimulation, using gentle swaying/stroking/tickling songs and rhymes, colourful puppets, floaty scarves, jingly bells, and lots more!

When the babies are ready for the next stage, they are sat facing each other in a semi-circle, so that they can benefit from the social interaction offered by the group experience. Ever-popular with this age group are the energetic knee-bouncers, age-appropriate

instruments to choose from and shake, the wonder of bubbles, tickling rhymes for bonding laughter!

At the older group, the children are encouraged to move independently, and the group sessions reinforce key values such as sharing, turn-taking and tidy-up time! There's lots of getting up and moving about for those active bodies, and plenty of sensory stimulation to encourage confidence and spark conversation.

We meet every Monday morning at 9.30am in the Cornwall Room.

Check out the website!!
www.singasaurus.co.uk

ADA Worthing Group

ADA is for people who have had a stroke or brain injury that has left them with aphasia. The problem is that very few people know about aphasia, yet more than 250,000 people in the UK now have difficulties speaking, reading, writing or understanding language and numbers. Imagine not being able to sing your favourite hymn or prayer, let alone read it. Imagine not being able to say your children's names, to ask for a train ticket, to enquire which bus to take, or to answer the phone – all these basic dilemmas mean that many people with aphasia are locked inside their own heads. People find it very lonely, especially when friends and family stop trying to communicate, either through forgetfulness or exhaustion. Luckily ADA tries to help those who are so isolated. We hold regular meetings and use drawings, diagrams and pictures as aids to communication.

Diana Law MBE formed Action for Dysphasic Adults (ADA) (also known as Speakability) in London in 1981 after she had had a severe stroke. The Worthing branch of ADA have been holding monthly meetings in the United Reformed Church Hall for about fifteen years. We have a speech therapist on our committee and have several outings every year. People enjoy the time we spend together and confidence blooms as laughter blows away our sense of isolation.

This a photo of some of our members at a garden party in Angmering held on Wednesday 4 August 2010 – just before the rain started! None of this would be possible, however, without the support of a wonderful team of ADA volunteers that plan the games, organise raffles, make teas etc. So on behalf of all ADA members, a sincere thank you to both the Church and the volunteers for the lifeline you provide to those with aphasia.



We're always looking for new members, so if you are interested, or know someone with aphasia who might like to attend our meetings, they are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 2.15pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, or phone 01903 770251.

Sue Guy

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Peace, Happiness and Good Health for the New Year! With every blessing,

Rev. (retired) Samuel Nkrumah and family

P.R.A. Asiamah - church secretary of the Hope Church in Assin Nsuta
Mrs. Agnes Amissah and family

Rowland Singers Choral Society

After an extraordinarily busy and rewarding 40th Anniversary year, the Rowland Singers are pleased to be back to the routine of rehearsing hard whilst at the same time having lots of fun. Helen has now taken over as conductor and there will be lots of new and exciting things happening both for the singers and also our audiences so do keep your eyes open for press releases, live adverts on *Splashfm*, articles in Chronicle magazine, posters and handbills. We also have a very lively website www.rowlandsingers.co.uk which gives all the information and is regularly updated. There are photos going way back to the early seventies so you may recognise some of our early members. The website shows all the different things we get up to both musical and social and is well worth a browse. You never know, some of you may be tempted to come and sing with us, become a *Friend of the Rowland Singers* or come to one of our concerts.

We started back on 8 September, and breaking with tradition, Helen decided that the first three weeks back would be workshops for our members and anyone wishing to join the choir. We were treated to fun warm up routines, various different choir seating arrangements and were given a taster of some of the music we will be performing over the next year. Our AGM took place on 29 September (only just over half an hour allowed as we are always well prepared) and then down to work on music for our forthcoming Carol Concerts. You will see the posters advertising dates and venues on our board during your **Festival of Light Week**. At the carol concerts we will introduce our new accompanist, **Kathryn Kay**. Helen, the committee and the choir are looking forward to working with her for a long time. **Nicholas Ryder** will be our soloist at the Assembly Hall when we are

singing Vaughan Williams' **Fantasia on Christmas Carols** and **The Quartettes** (Helen, Maxine, Dorothy and Jacky) will be providing solos at the smaller Christmas Concerts.

In the Spring term we embark on our Easter Music programme which includes the **Magnificat (Rutter)**, **Gloria (Poulenc)** and **Te Deum (Haydn)**. Again you will see from the posters on our display board that we have two performances. The first, on Thursday 31 March 2011 at **Christ Church, Grafton Road, Worthing** and the second, on Wednesday 6th April at Goring United Reformed Church. This is a regular venue for us at this time of the year and tickets will be on sale early in January available by ringing Helen on 01903 238792.

The Summer Term sees us hosting a **Massed Choirs Concert**, the first Joint Concert by the Thames South Group of the National Association of

Choirs [NAC]. Six choirs from Reading, London, Crawley, East Kent, Tonbridge and Worthing will take part ending in a rousing finale when we all sing together. Male Voice Choirs, Mixed Voices and Ladies are all represented and in the magnificent acoustic of the Assembly Hall, Worthing it promises to be an exhilarating occasion for us all.

We end the year musically with two concerts entitled **Spirit of Summer**. This is when the choir really let their hair down with lots of light-hearted, fun numbers and popular choral classics. We will be joined by Fiona Cartmell (Clarinet) as our soloist, Kathryn Kay, accompanist and Helen as conductor.

Apart from these musical events, we regularly have social ones too. - a **Whist Drive** (9 October, 2010), **Quiz Night** (29 January 2011), **Annual Meal** (4 March), **Skittles**

Evening (14 May) and a **BBQ** on 16 July. If you become a friend of the Rowland Singers, all of these events are available for you to enjoy. It only costs £5 per person per year and you also get three attractive newsletters with all the necessary information and up to date news about the choir's activities. If you are interested, give Maxine a ring on 01903 603595.

Not forgetting that we are a charity, we always try to raise money for needy causes. During the last academic year, we raised £400 for the RNLI at Christmas, £319.71 for the Sussex MS Treatment Centre in June, and £362.57 for Parkinson's UK as well as money for Christ Church and GURC. The grand total was just under £1500. Our collections this December will be for Chestnut Tree House.

*Jacky Hetherington
Hon Life President, Trustee and
Secretary*



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Slimming World
I'm a healthier,
happier mum

Becky
from West Sussex

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Becky
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in Jennie's
class.

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Slimming
-WORLD-
because you're amazing

Dear Readers

I would like to introduce myself to you as your local Slimming World Consultant in Goring and have been for the past fifteen years.

I would very much like to share with you Slimming World's fabulous "eating plan" that allows you to lose weight and most importantly stay healthy.

You will not believe it when you see the amount of food you can eat freely whilst on our plan. You can still enjoy your old favourite meals but cooked the SW way - even fish and chips, roast dinners or chocolate deserts can be healthy on our plan. We have easy recipes to transform you and your family's way of eating whilst watching the pounds melt away .

The Kids are back to school - the holidays are over for now - why not take time to concentrate on YOURSELF. Come and join us at our group in the UNITED REFORMED CHURCH on Thursday evenings at 5.30pm or 7.00pm. - I hopefully look forward to meeting you soon. With best wishes.

Jennie Quiver

Worthing Natural History Society

For almost fifty years Worthing Natural History Society has acted as a forum for people who enjoy the countryside and wish to learn more about the natural world. From April through to October field trips are arranged on alternate Saturdays to places of interest. Some trips are to local venues e.g. The Wildfowl and Wetland Trust at Arundel, using public transport or shared cars, and some will venture further afield using a coach e.g. The Savill Garden in Windsor Great Park. Some of the outings involve a walk of approximately four miles, led by a member of the society, when the flora and fauna are identified along the way. Our most recent walk was at The Mens, an ancient woodland near Petworth, in the care of the Sussex

Wildlife Trust. The Summer also heralds our Garden Party, held at The Friends Meeting House in Worthing, where we have a convivial afternoon including delightful music from the Sussex Folk Orchestra.

The Winter season, from November through to the end of March or just in to April, sees our programme of talks given by invited speakers in The Goring United Reformed Church Hall.

While having a natural history theme, the talks can range over a diversity of topics. For example among the topics this Winter we will learn about alien plants that are growing in Sussex, we will be taken to the Scottish islands, we will learn about the vagaries of the weather and we will have an audio-visual presentation on the Wey & Arun Canal. The Members Afternoon allows and encourages members to share their own interests through paintings, specimens, books and through short talks.

The activities of the society are brought together in the Annual Report which each member receives. A copy is also lodged with the Natural History Museum in London. Membership of the society is open to all who have an interest in the country side. The membership subscription currently stands at £10 and there is a charge of no more than £14 for each coach outing to cover the cost of hiring the coach.

Anyone interested in joining us should contact the Hon. Secretary,

*Dr. Lawson Powell
Worthing 200575*

Children's fun

fitness is Buzzing in Worthing!

Bee-fit have been providing a fun fitness programme for babies and young children in Worthing since January 2004.

Tina Le Merle and Sally Roberts are qualified coaches who formed Bee-fit after concerns regarding the growing inactivity of children.

Their aim is to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, by showing children that regular exercise and keeping fit can be fun, and are good habits to have for ensuring health and happiness in the future.

Bee-fit pre-school classes are 45 minutes long, jam packed with fun warm-ups, mini relays, parachute games, singing, bubbles as well as loads of colourful stimulating equipment. Bee-fit has built up a strong reputation in the local area and now also provide fun fitness sessions for schools in West Sussex.



**fun fitness for
all the family!**
www.bee-fit.co.uk

Let us do the hard work while you enjoy the party!



**Traditional party games, Active fun,
Parachute games, Music and mini disco
Party masks or crowns, Pass the parcel,
Fun fitness equipment & washable tattoos
Party invitations & party bags**

Coming soon
Football parties - All ages catered for

**for further information please contact:
Tel: 01903 241740
www.bee-fit.co.uk**

Their classes are extremely popular, giving children confidence and increasing their self esteem.

Bee-fit also have a successful Children's Party package, with some exciting new additions for 2010.

For full details please see their website www.bee-fit.co.uk

or contact Tina on 01903 503078

or Sally on 01903 241740

Spicy Red Tomato Chutney

Recently I made some red tomato chutney with tomatoes that I had bought from the supermarket, and, even though it was late November, some apples from the garden. It seems to me that you really can't go wrong with chutney, as long as you keep the total fruit content to 3kg including onions and use 600ml of vinegar. (Always use stainless steel pans as the vinegar is corrosive.)

Chutney, or Chatni originated in India and is an ancient method of preserving fruit and vegetables. Apparently chutneys have been in England for the last 400 years.

Recipe

- 1½Kg Red Tomatoes
- ½Kg Apples
- ½Kg A mixture of Dates, Sultanas and Raisins
- ½Kg Onions
- ½Kg Soft Light Brown Sugar
- 1 Rounded Tablespoon Crystallised Stem Ginger
- 2 Teaspoons Mustard Powder
- 2 Teaspoons Ground Coriander
- 1 Teaspoon Crushed Chilli
- 600ml Red Wine Vinegar

You can vary the amounts of spices according to taste. but as it is it is quite spicy (!) use jars with vinegar proof lids.

Peel, core and chop the apples in a preserving pan with just enough water to prevent them burning. Bring slowly to boil and simmer until tender, then remove from heat and mash to a pulp. Add the finely chopped tomatoes, and onions together with the dates, sultanas, raisins and sugar. Finally add the finely chopped ginger, mustard powder, coriander and chillies together with the vinegar. Bring slowly to boil and cook on a low heat until a large proportion of the liquid has evaporated, remembering to stir frequently to avoid burning on the bottom of the pan. This process takes somewhere between 2–3 hours. It is ready when a spoon can be drawn across the surface making a channel, without it being immediately filled with liquid again.

Pour into warmed sterilised jars and screw on the lids. Ideally it should be kept for 2 or 3 months before using, but if you are anything like me you will want to sample it straight away!

Fills about 10-12 small jam jars.

Graham Redman

Which day is it today?

Once again, the commercialisation of Christmas has been upon us – the early appearance of ‘Festive goods’ in the shops and the incessant T.V. and magazine advertisements for the “Must Haves”. Children’s minds have been filled with Great Expectations and, contrary to good health recommendations, we are expected to eat and drink to excess. Can we afford it all? The songs and tunes that have been filling the air included ‘The Twelve Days of Christmas’, and choirs of all kinds, all round the country, entertain themselves and their audiences as they sing their way through the many repetitions. The ‘True Love’ who sent all the gifts mentioned must have been wealthy, as it would have cost a fortune! He must have had a stately home with many acres of orchards and woodlands, with farmers, herdsman, gamekeepers, a good jeweller, many upper-crust friends and a good band of musicians!

Tongue in cheek, PNC financial services of America have, since 1984, maintained a close watch on the price ‘True Love’ would have had to pay for his generosity in the ‘Christmas Price Index’ – the price of one set of the gifts stated for each of the twelve days, and ‘The True Cost of Christmas’ which includes the

cumulative cost of the multiple gifts repeated on all of the days.

1984 saw CPI costing \$12,623,10 and TCOC \$61,318,84. 2009 saw CPI at \$21,465,58 and TCOC at \$87,402,811! The people in the song were hired, not bought. (Find more details re by Googling PNC Christmas Price Index.)

It has been interesting to read different versions of the song from different countries and to read several speculative suggestions as to the origin and meaning of the song, mostly of a social and festive nature, which would come to a climax on Twelfth Night.

However, one interpretation of the song is not that of over-indulgence, but that it was used as a catechism to help young Catholics to learn their faith in secret in the years when Catholicism was more than frowned on. (1558-1829).

A partridge often feigns injury to draw attention away from her young and to herself to protect them from danger and it was used to represent Christ. The pear tree was once thought to be the celestial counterpart of the common apple.

Two Turtle doves represent the Old and the New testaments. Turtle doves are associated with enduring friendships and marriage because they mate for life and a similar bond is believed to join the two testaments.

Three French hens signify the gifts of the Wise Men - gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Four calling birds represent the four apostles Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and their gift of the gospels.

Five golden rings are representative of the five books of the Pentateuch.

Six geese a-laying - eggs symbolise new life, so the geese represent the six days of God's Creation.

Seven swans a-swimming are linked with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: prophecy, service, teaching, encouragement, giving, leadership and mercy.

Eight maids a-milking stand for the eight Beatitudes, which Jesus gave in his Sermon on the Mount to spell out blessings for the poor, meek and lowly.

Nine ladies dancing are thought of as the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, self-control, peace, joy, patience, gentleness, faithfulness, goodness and kindness.

Ten Lords a-leaping represent the law and leadership symbolised by the teaching of the Ten Commandments.

Eleven pipers piping are believed to signify the 11 apostles who stayed faithful to Christ.

Twelve drummers drumming are symbolic of the 12 teachings of the Creed, which summarise the main beliefs of the Catholic Church.

So when we next sing this song, it can mean much more to us than a jolly knees-up or a simple party game!

Mary Connelly

Goring Neighbourhood Community Panel



“Goring Residents with the help of the Police, Local Councillors and other agencies are working together for our community”

Some Goring residents have experienced an unwarranted degree of anti-social behaviour from a small number of young people. We are therefore asking people to let us know if they are experiencing problems.

Residents often feel uncomfortable about making a fuss or even fear reprisals if they complain about anti-social behaviour. However by passing information on to your local Neighbourhood Community Panel you are assured discretion and you will be helping the Police to target potentially difficult areas. If you have any such concerns: Please do email our Chair at - janzalexander@googlemail.com

Or Phone - PC Sean McCowan on 07775 406786

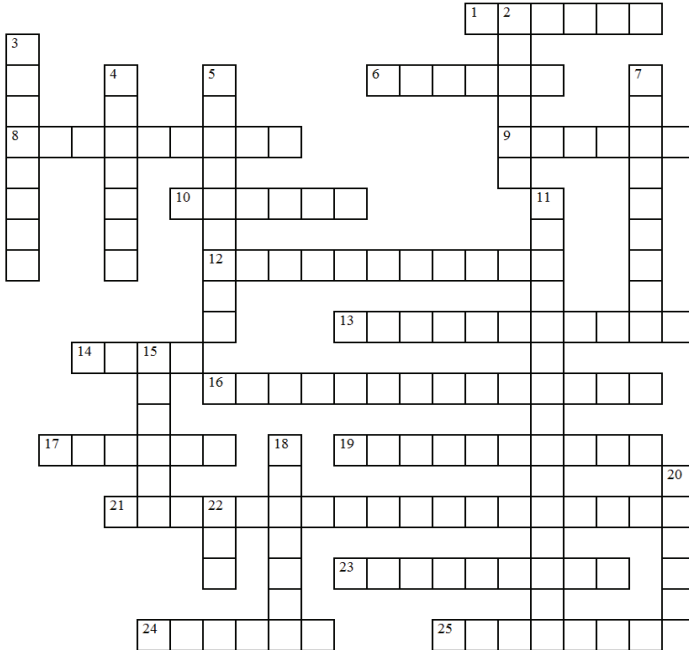
Or PCSO Carol Fulcher on 07795 800998

We all want to keep Goring the nice place to live that we all value so much.
So please *do* call if you can help - Thank you.

What's in the CHRONICLE?

Words to this puzzle can all be found in this edition of the Chronicle.

The solution can be found on the table at the back of the church.



ACROSS

1. Who meets on a Monday afternoon?
6. What instrument does Cathy use to help her?
8. How many boxes were collected?
9. What was from the garden in November?
10. Who uses a Wendy house with a cooker?
12. Who meets at 9.30am on a Monday
13. What's on BBCTV, during the week
- leading up to Christmas?
14. Piano lesson by?
16. Where does it say, -
"Santa Claus is coming to town?"
17. Whose contact number is 241740?
19. A local driving school.
21. Where did Rosina and Hilary go to?
23. What's happening on 29 January?
24. Who plays dominoes, card bingo and scrabble.
25. Which page is this on? 'favourite holiday'

DOWN

2. 'A light for the nations' where's it from?
3. Which Synod is St Andrew's part of?
4. What will light this evening's service?
5. What does the D in ADA stand for?
7. What event occurred on 20 November?
11. What happened here in October?
15. What follows birthday wishes?
18. Does the church get side tracked by this?
20. Who has taken over as conductor?
22. How many days for leaping lords?

Weekday Activities

Goring by Sea Pilots Company. 5-17yr olds	Monday Afternoon/Evening
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Monthly Bible Study	1st Thursday in month 10.30am
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Choir Practice	Sunday Morning at 9.15
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

Publication Team :-

Proof Reading: Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas. Telephone 01903 700141
Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -
2 Ardale Close, Worthing, BN11 5HW

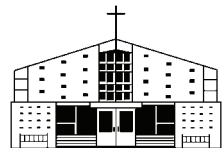
Editor: Graham Redman.
Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT
chronicle@gurc.org.uk

The Chronicle costs approximately 75p each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE
www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle

chronicle@gurc.org.uk





Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

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



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.

www.gurc.org.uk