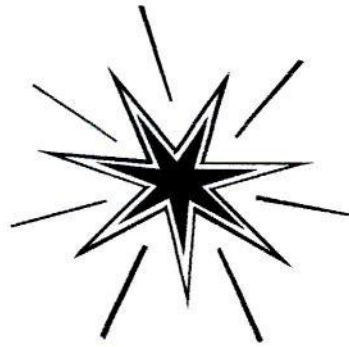




# Newsletter

WINTER 2011



Mild he lays His Glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,"  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth

Wesley

*The birth of Christ brought God to man*



The cross of Christ brings man to God



# The Minister's Musings

Probably the most significant event in anyone's life, certainly for a woman, is the birth of a baby. Whether desired or not, the changes that come with the arrival of a new child are far reaching. However, unless you are famous the event is unlikely to be noticed by anyone other than your immediate family and friends. Within the pages of our newspapers, or on news bulletins, you will find articles of a more grandiose style.



Take for instance the year 1809, the big news of the day was about the bloody campaigns and victories of Napoleon in Austria and Spain, yet completely missed was the birth of two babies. Yet that same year in a log cabin in Kentucky, Abraham Lincoln was born who radically shaped and formed the USA. That December in the UK saw the birth of William Gladstone who arguably became one of the greatest Chancellors and politicians this country has ever known.

And what of Napoleon? Well Waterloo rather ended his career and the grand empire he sought to build. It often seems that what we consider important proves, with the eye of history, not to be, yet what we undervalue and overlook goes on to be of the utmost significance.

So let us go back two thousand years, when another emperor was busy building his lasting legacy. Augustus, ruler of the known world, the head over all the Roman might was causing a bit of press and ordered a census of the people. Had the Times, the Mirror or the BBC been recording history we would have had swarms of reporters in Rome and Jerusalem as the might of the empire forced hundreds of thousands to migrate back to their place of birth. Yet it was not here that history was being made, it was not Augustus or his descendants that influence us every single day of the week today.



Like Napoleon, Rome fell and now lies in the dust, evidenced only by artefacts dug out of the ground and a few parchments and codices, and the world has moved on. No, to find the real history maker, you need to look outside the capital cities to an undercroft of a domestic house in a small rural

backwater, where a newborn child was laid to sleep in a feeding trough. Yes Augustus' decree prevented the baby having a warm bed as Bethlehem's population had temporarily blossomed, but it would be Jesus who ultimately brought Rome down, despite its best efforts.

This Christmas, it is the prayer of Knaphill Baptist Church that you may see with fresh eyes the wonder of the birth of Jesus, a wonder only acknowledged at the time by Mary, Joseph, some shepherds and wealthy Arabs from Iran.

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.*

*And he will be called  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

Christmas always starts with Christ, otherwise it's just a party not an invitation...

A very blessed Christmas to you and those you love.



## *Editor's Ramblings*



### **WE FOUR KINGS**



I know there was only THREE kings in the story. But there is a story told about the fourth king, it's only a story!

The fourth king travelled with the three as far as the star and at that point decided he had some urgent business at home to attend to so he went home. His intention was to return as soon as possible and catch up with the other three kings.

But his problems back home seemed to be never ending and the days, weeks, months and years went by before he was able to make that important return journey.

He eventually got to the place that the star had led them before and started his search. First place was the inn. They told him of a young mother and child that had stayed there but they had to flee the country because of Herod. They didn't know where the family was now.

So the search began through town and villages, highways and byways. Some said they had seen Him, others not sure. Some said He was the one they saw with twelve friends. Some had seen miracles, some said He was the one they saw on the lake. Others had actually listened to Him. But none knew His whereabouts. So

eventually the search took him to Jerusalem. There he met some of his friends, he asked "can you take me to Him" he said.

They did, to a hill outside the city, here he is they said, the fourth king was too late. He fell on his knees full of sorrow and regret - if only - if only. The moral of this story is: don't be a FOURTH KING.

Many will be at church, maybe for the first time at Christmas. For some an annual event, will hear the Gospel message, called to accept Jesus for themselves to start a new life.

I have met many Christians who wish they had started their Christian journey earlier and realised how much they had missed out so much and regretted it.

Don't be a FOURTH KING.

Love came down at Christmas  
His love for you and me

To ALL our readers we wish you  
a happy and joyful  
CHRISTMAS



## ***HARVEST SUPPER***

Eileen and I missed this year's and by all accounts it was as usual a most enjoyable evening with of course excellent food and DVD of Operation Agri. Thanks again to everybody who helped to make the evening a happy event.

## ***CHRISTMAS WRAPPED UP***

Plans are well ahead for the Craft and Fun day for the children on Saturday 10th December. Our thanks to Ruth and all those who have signed up to help on the day.

## ***THANK YOU***

Thanks to everybody who supplied pants and money for Love Russia, these have now been sent off.

My thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Newsletter during the year. Also thanks to my son Ray for doing the typing on the computer, and to Eric who prints it.

## ***FELLOWSHIP NEWS***

Sohan was unanimously re-elected to the Diaconate. We thank him for his willingness to stand again.

Sylvia Elliot withdrew for standing for election as she felt that God was calling her to a new venture. She's planning, forming teams to go into wards at St. Peter's Hospital at meal times to help those whose needs are greatest, thereby showing God's love and helping patients to get back on their feet quicker. If you would like to help speak to Sylvia.

## ***PRAY FOR***

Ese who was baptised on 4th December. She will be starting a new job at Redhill and pray that God will continue to bless her and all the family.

Pam Rice and her friend Thelma who suffered a very serious car accident on holiday in Africa. A miracle, no bones were broken as the vehicle they were travelling in rolled over. Both badly bruised, but making slow recoveries. It was good to see Pam in church and Richard prayed for healing for them both.

Pauline is back worshipping with us but is still in some pain at times Ruth Collier has had a successful knee operation. Many have been unwell since the last Newsletter, you can be rest assured that you have been in our prayers. We had the privilege of receiving three new members into the fellowship - Jill, Graham and Linda. We thank you for them and for their involvement in the work of the church.

## *Remembrance Service 2011*

This was the 3rd year that we have held a Remembrance Service in Knaphill Village. We hold the Service on Armistice Day, November 11th instead of the nearest Sunday. We gather outside the Old Library. The Service this year had a special poignancy, as there is now no one living that served during the First World War, which is why it is so important that we do this each year. The Service was led by our Minister the Rev Richard Sherlock.



There was a large crowd of people from the village; we were also joined by Woking MP Jonathan Lord, Local Councillors Melanie Whitehand and Tina Liddington plus Members of the Armed Forces and the British Legion. Children were represented by Pupils from Knaphill Junior School. The Children had been learning about the Battle of Britain and several of the children read Poems they had written about the event, which were excellent and very moving, considering they have never experienced War.

The 2 minute silence was observed with Ruth Moore playing Last post and Reveille and a Piper played a lament. Rev David Faulkner from the Methodist Church and Rev Nick Grew, Holy Trinity lead Prayers.

It is occasions like this that give us the opportunity to be in the community with the people of the Village. After the Service it is good to go into the King's House Coffee Shop, for Coffee & Cake decorated with a Poppy.

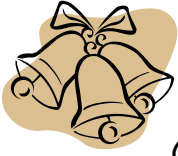
Judy Spink

## ***I'd rather have Jesus***

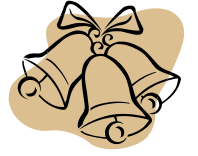
There are many in life who seek only wealth,  
regardless of how it's supplied.  
Surrounding themselves with luxury.  
To material things they're tied.  
But an earthquake, or fire, a financial crash  
in a moment can take these away.  
That's why I am thankful my greatest wealth  
is in knowing Jesus today.  
There are many who seek after worldly acclaim,  
and long for excitement and fun.  
Or maybe they live just by their wits,  
or what is worse - a gun.  
There is much that is wrong in the world today,  
but we can honestly walk,  
as Jesus is only a prayer away  
and with Him we can always talk.  
We are very privileged to know this truth,  
and that He will see us through.  
I hope, dear friend, you'll say with me,  
I'd rather have Jesus too!

## ***CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED***

"Special delivery - Handle with Care",  
the label read. An unexpected gift!  
I started to unwrap it layer by layer -  
Somebody loves me! I felt my spirits lift.  
I found each wrapping difficult to tear,  
and each one gaudier than the one before.  
I sensed that none of it should have been there,  
quite unconnected to the real gift at the core.  
Layer one revealed fat profits, jangling tills,  
commercialism, credit cards and debts,  
frayed tempers, crowded shops and unpaid bills,  
final demands, bank overdrafts, New Year regrets.  
Next came excesses caused by food and drink:  
"Mum, I feel sick" and "Help—I've gained a stone!"  
and "Honest, officer, I didn't think  
just one more pint would mean I'd kill somebody's son."  
More layers came off- the annual trip to church,  
the office party, highly costly frocks,  
millions of cards, the frantic present search,  
the once-a-year donation in the Oxfam box.  
Panic set in: what if I reached the end  
only to find that it was as I feared,  
and what was sent by my yet-unknown friend  
had, amid all these tawdry wrappings, disappeared?  
The final layer gone, I stared in joy!  
Here was a gift all other gifts above -  
A manger held a perfect baby boy  
and on his tiny wrist a tag "From God with love."  
"Forgive us Lord," I cried, "What have we done?  
We've kept your priceless gift smothered and trapped.  
Please help us from today to free your Son,  
so that our world can see the *real* Christmas unwrapped."



# Ruth's Page



For a while when I was growing up, one of the big things of Christmas was which pop record would be No. 1 on Christmas Day (not that I actually ever bought the records myself!). See if you can match the song to the artist/group and the year it was No. 1. As it is Christmas, I have done the first one for you to get you started! As it would take up quite a lot of space, I won't print the answers in the next Newsletter but if you would like a copy please ask.

1952	<i>Al Martino</i>	<i>Here in my heart</i>	1983	Leona Lewis	Do they know it's Christmas?
1957	Alexandra Burke	A moment like this	1985	Matt Cardle	Merry Xmas everybody
1960	Band Aid	Bohemian Rhapsody	1988	Mr Blobby	Mistletoe and Wine
1962	Bob the Builder	I love you	1990	Queen	Lily the pink
1963	Boney M	Merry Christmas everyone	1993	Rolf Harris	Return to sender
1968	Cliff Richard	That's my goal	1998	Spice Girls	Saviour's Day
1969	Cliff Richard	Hallelujah	2000	Shakin' Stevens	Sound of the Underground
1972	Cliff Richard & The Shadows	Can we fix it?	2002	Shayne Ward	Goodbye
1973	Elvis Presley	I want to hold your hand	2005	Slade	Long haired lover from Liverpool
1975	Girls Aloud	Mr Blobby	2006	St Winifred's School Choir	Two little boys
1976	Harry Belafonte	Mary's Boy Child	2008	The Beatles	When a child is born
1978	Jimmy Osmond	There's no-one quite like Grandma	2010	The Scaffold	When we collide
1980	Johnny Mathis	Mary's Boy Child			

## Answers to the Quiz (Autumn 2011 Newsletter)

1. Mary (John 20:10-16); 2. A worm (Jonah 4:6-7); 3. The word of the Lord (Isaiah 40:6-8); 4. Peter (1 Peter 1:24-25); 5. Song of Songs (2:1); 6. Hyssop (Leviticus 14:4-6); 7. Passover (Exodus 12:8); 8. Almond blossoms (Exodus 25:31-33); 9. Thorns (Matthew 13:1-9); 10. Mint and Rue (Luke 11:42); 11. The Israelites while they were in the wilderness. (Numbers 11:4); 12. Song of Solomon (2:3); 13. Lilies of the field (Matthew 6:28-29); 14. Star of Bethlehem.

# *A tale of kings*



*Three kings came to see the king and asked him where the new king was born.*

*But the first king told the three kings that he didn't know where the second king was. His advisers looked in the Bible - though not in First Kings or Second Kings - and found that the second king was to be born in Bethlehem.*

*So the first king told the three kings to find the second king and tell him, the first king, where the second king was, because the first king thought the second king was one king too many.*

*But when the three kings found the second king they realised he was actually the number-one king - the King of Kings - and that, compared with him, the other king and all other kings were really no kings at all.*

## *Sunday children group*

Judy and I have been working through the ALF (About Faith and Life) 2 course with the children, showing them how they can follow Jesus, through the teachings of Luke's Gospel. Each week we have had a specific theme, which helps us to follow the right road. The themes were: following Jesus, the Bible, prayer, the Church, God will always love us, trusting God, the golden rules, keeping the rule, saying sorry, worship, caring for others and witnessing.

For Harvest we made a Sukkah to decorate the entrance of the church, these were built in honour of the 40-year period the people of Israel spent wandering through the desert and living in temporary shelters. We also bound together 'Bikkurims', the first fruit offerings, to help us thank God for his provision.

We have now returned to the 'Friends and Heroes' series, where through the animated adventures of Macky and his friends, Bible stories are brought to life.

## *KWF*

Here we are nearing Christmas once again.

We began our Autumn session when Richard was the speaker. Since then we have had a variety of meetings including visits from Mick, Jill Page, Eileen Byde, bringing us up to date on BMS. Then it was lovely to have Lisa Lewis come again telling us more about the work of Leprosy Mission, she also brought Mike her boss with her who had come from Norfolk.

1st November was Women's Day of Prayer and we again took part in that Unfortunately we had to cancel two meetings due to Rita's hospital appointments, hence no transport. We have also had several invalids, Toots had to have a hip replacement and is still recovering despite having had a fall. Joanna and Pauline are still under the weather and they all need our prayers.

We are a very happy loyal group and continue to support each other. We thank the Lord for leading and guiding us over so many years and we just leave the future with Him.

We wish you all Peace, Grace and Joy this Christmas.

## BMS Birthday Scheme

Congratulations to the following members of the Birthday Scheme:

January  
No Birthdays

February  
13<sup>th</sup> Mrs Eileen Webber  
14<sup>th</sup> Mrs Judy Spink  
20<sup>th</sup> Mrs Eileen Byde

March  
1<sup>st</sup> Mrs Ruth Moore  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mr Mick Dennison  
24<sup>th</sup> Mrs Jenny Deslandes

Time for New Year's Resolution shortly – why not join the Birthday Scheme and make your birthday a blessing to someone else. Leaflets at the back of church, or speak to Rita.

A very happy birthday to all.

## HELICOPTER JOKE

There were ten men and one woman hanging onto a rope that came down from a helicopter.

They all decided that one person should get off, because if they didn't the rope would break and everyone would die. No one could decide who should go, finally the woman give a really touching speech, saying she would give up her life to save the others, because women were used to giving up things for their husbands and children, giving into men and not receiving anything in return.

When she finished speaking, all the men started clapping.

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF A WOMAN.

## Prayer Please

Please remember these people in your prayers: Bob and Pam Younger Gordon and Ruth Steer

Also Jeanette Hicks who has just had a hip operation. Pray for those who will be caring for her when she comes home. As far as I know this will include John and Ann Kelland who have some good news.

They are moving to 'settle' in Godalming and their new address after the 14th January 2012 will be:

55 Eashing Lane, GODALMING, Surrey, GUT 2LB.

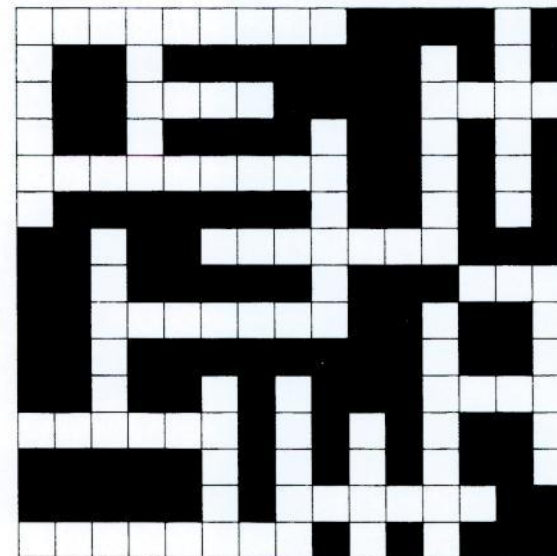
We wish them every happiness in their new home.

(P.S. They hope to visit us over Christmas)

Pray for a new Bible study group which will be meeting at Margaret's house in Chobham, starting in the New Year on Monday evenings. If you are interested please speak to either Margaret or Judy as to the details.

### FITWORD

### "WOMEN OF THE BIBLE"



3 LETTERS  
EVE

4 LETTERS  
ANNA  
LEAH  
MARY  
RUTH

5 LETTERS  
NAOMI  
RHODA  
SARAH

6 LETTERS  
DORCAS  
ESTHER  
EUNICE  
HANNAH  
JOANNA  
MARTHA  
PHOEBE  
SALOME

7 LETTERS  
BERNICE  
DELILAH  
REBEKAH

8 LETTERS  
SAPPHIRA

9 LETTERS  
BATHSHEBA  
PRISCILLA

See if you can fit these words into their correct positions in the diagram. Find your own starter for this puzzle.

