

the magazine
the magazine

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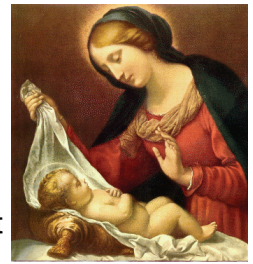


features

minister's letter
giving tree
family news
occupation memories
Methodist story: part 3
esperado news
messy church

dear friends

'Love Came Down At Christmas
love all lovely, love divine
love was born at Christmas.....'



so says the opening verse of this beautiful Christina Rossetti hymn but they are words that set me thinking! Christmas is about love.....the story of Christmas celebrates the birth of a child, Jesus, who came to show the world the enormity, the infinite extent, of God's love for the world. A love that is unchanging and given freely and that we can choose to accept or not. A love that was ultimately expressed when Jesus died on the cross and so offered the gift of forgiveness to all humankind.

So, if Christmas is about love how do we express it? Looking around the shops and watching the adverts on TV it would seem that love = presents, and the more luxurious or expensive the better. And of course there's nothing wrong with giving gifts to the ones we care about, just as there's nothing wrong with sharing some nice food and drink with our families and friends. But the love that Christmas celebrates goes beyond those material gestures and the laughter and fun shared with people we know. The love that Christmas celebrates somehow encompasses the whole world not just in laughter but in the pain and tears as well and it challenges us to do the same.

Jesus tells a parable about the sheep and the goats, about how they were separated by the shepherd, the sheep on the right and the goats on the left. The sheep were able to enter the King's kingdom and the goats weren't. The animals were symbolic of humankind.....those who responded in love to all the world and those who selectively helped others when they thought it might better their own cause or make them look good. We are no different and in the message of Christmas love Jesus continues to challenge us 'in as much as you did this for the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to me' he says in the parable; our place in heaven is not determined by the bad things we do, rather it is determined by the good things that we don't do. Our sins have already been paid for.....Jesus did that on the cross. We are asked to embrace that sacrifice by reflecting Jesus in world around us.

So if we choose to accept the love offered to us in the Christmas story and then to respond to it we should remember that the love born at Christmas isn't about gift wrap, tinsel and turkey.....it's about a smile, a hug, an invitation to a stranger and unselfish acts of kindness. Can you reach out with Christmas love to someone in need this festive season? Can I? If we think we can't then perhaps these words will inspire us to act.

Old Tom was on a journey
and he walked on through the cold,
looking for two simple things –
a bit of grub to eat
and a middling warm place to kip.

At first he tried a house,
all lit up with coloured lights;

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he rang the bell; a lady came.
'Just need a bit of food,' he said
but the door was already closed.

Next he tried a restaurant;
there's always lots of grub left over.
Knocked on the door and a bloke came out;
'Any grub, mate, you can spare?'
'Get off from here. You'll scare our customers,'
and a few spicy word as well.
Tom got the message quick and scarpered,
quick as a flash.

He thought about a church then
and pushed open the big wooden door.
He ventured in about six steps
when two men barred his way.
'You're letting in a draught,' one said
and the other 'Watch the plate'
as the sounds of the choir rose loftily
and Tom retreated, closing the old wooden door.

He decided next on another house
with a long winding path;
by now the snow was falling
and he feeling tired and cold.
His legs would hardly carry him
and his eyes began to glaze.
He staggered across the rock-hard lawn
and with a sort of sigh, he crumpled to the ground.

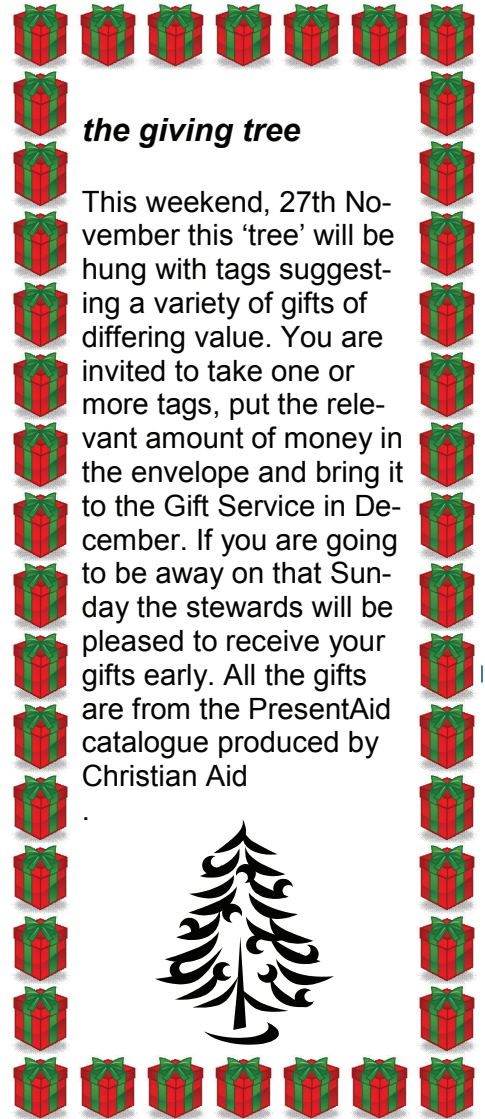
It was a week later, after that heavy fall of snow,
that the thaw came and melted it
and a neighbour called the police.
Old Tom had no last supper
but he found a resting place,
a green mattress under a brown pillow for his head
and a white blanket to cover him,.

John Johansen-Berg

A cup of tea, a meal, an offer of warm clothing, responding to our
gift tree, a conversation with a lonely neighbour.....there is so
much we can do. Christina Rossetti's first verse ends with the line
'Stars and angels gave the sign'. I believe that love was born at
Christmas and that today it is us that give the sign.

May you and your families and friends have a Christmas filled with
love and may your New Year be peaceful and blessed.

Liz



the giving tree

This weekend, 27th November this 'tree' will be hung with tags suggesting a variety of gifts of differing value. You are invited to take one or more tags, put the relevant amount of money in the envelope and bring it to the Gift Service in December. If you are going to be away on that Sunday the stewards will be pleased to receive your gifts early. All the gifts are from the PresentAid catalogue produced by Christian Aid

Family worship 2011-12

- Sunday 11 December
'Nativity'
- Sunday 22 January
'The Lord is my shepherd'
- Sunday 26 February
'Accept or Reject'
- Sunday 18 March
'Mothering Sunday'
- Sunday 8 April
'Easter Day'
- Sunday 27 May
'Pentecost'
- Sunday 24 June
'The world's best seller'
- Sunday 22 July
'Olympic Games'
- Sunday 19 August
'Holiday Club Service'

**family news
and prayer concerns**



We remember in our prayers

ANN & DAVID PAUL - Ann who is a devoted carer of David and who appreciates our prayers and support, and David who is usually so cheerful and accepting of his illness, has been very low in the last few weeks, and has needed special care and attention. We pray that he may be feeling better soon.

FRANK BREHAUT, who continues to receive treatment as and when necessary, and who remains cheerful in spite of his prognosis. We remember him and Bunny in our prayers.

JOAN JOHNSON who has been suffering severe pain is now receiving medication to relieve the pain but is having some side effects which are unpleasant. We remember her and John in our prayers.

ENID DAVIS who has had a second cataract operation and is recovering at home.

MARDIE BISSON had a replacement hip operation in September and has recovered well. She is now able to walk comfortably without constant pain.

GEORGE MACDONALD, husband of Val, has been unable to work for some time because of a problem which has been diagnosed in his neck. We hope he will soon be feeling better and able to work again.

JOY POTTS who has been asleep

most times she has been visited in the last few months, has had some lucid moments lately when she says she feels better.

EUNICE LEONARD is still waiting for an operation to her right hand, but after some considerable time since the left hand was operated on, this hand is more flexible.

EUNICE LE BRETON struggles on and manages to come to church most Sundays, but still has many problems to cope with. She still enjoys her cooking and making soup. We admire her stamina.

IDRYS BUESNEL has now returned home after living at Maison La Corderie while her family have been out of the Island on holiday. We admire her courage and determination to keep going in spite of her difficulties in walking.

DOROTHY POYNER continues to live alone with the support of her daughter, Margaret, who goes in every day. She celebrated her 96th birthday in July. We send our greetings and congratulations.

We remember all our house-bound, elderly or frail members and friends in our prayers - they are part of the rich tapestry of our church family.

BIRTHDAYS in September and October and November
SALLY VASSELIN, BARBARA CARTER, EMMA HUNTER, BECKY HUNTER, KEN KING, ETHELWYN LE GROS, DI TOOLE, GORDON BULLOCK, JEAN TRELEVEN, BEN SHAW, EMILY HUBERT, DAVID HICKLIN, DARYL DE GRUCHY, FIONA PICOT, FRANCIS QUASNAH, BETH LE MOIGNAN and others not mentioned here! May you be surrounded by God's love as you journey into another year.

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Congratulations to

ALEX and ELIZABETH DEANS (Di Toole's youngest daughter) on their recent wedding in Berkeley, California at Alex's family home. They are making their home there for now, so I expect Di will be crossing 'the pond' again next year.

Advent

A season of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. The first Sunday in Advent is 27 November, when there will be a Circuit Holy Communion at Georgetown at 6.30pm using the Taizé liturgy. This reflective format enables space for thoughtful preparation for the busy Christmas season.



Helpers needed....

SHMC has a large capacity in the worship centre which means it is frequently chosen to host events and concerts. It is desirable on these occasions to have at least one SHMC representative on hand to welcome the organisers of the event and to be able to respond to any queries that arise during it. It does necessitate a potential volunteer becoming familiar with the evacuation procedures in the event of the fire alarm sounding. This is not difficult and the stewards have printed instructions on this procedure.

Please consider whether you could undertake this job occasionally. Pauline keeps a list of those who may be available to volunteer and it is never long enough!

Occupation memories

By Idrys Buesnel

3. We Stay

My husband Lewis was born in Staffordshire, England. He had volunteered for the air force and was waiting for his papers and warrants to come through. He was working at the General Hospital as a dispensing chemist. He went to inform the doctors in charge, McKinstry, Hanna and Darling that we would be leaving. They asked him to consider staying as they thought all drugs on the Island might be centralised and they had to be sure at least one chemist would be available.

Meanwhile, I was packing our cases. We were a family of four, Lewis born in 1936 and Anthony in 1939.

On his return, we talked the new situation through and decided to stay; he felt he would be part of a good team and more useful here than in England. I did not want to go, I am Jersey born and love my Island and felt I should support my husband in any decision, so we remained at home.

A short while later, a Home Guard was formed. My husband and a neighbour, Mr Beer patrolled along Green Island coastline; they had one gun between them plus a pitch fork. Most local men volunteered for this duty.

A notice then appeared in the Evening Post; we were to hang a white flag from the top window of the house signifying surrender. I used a pillowcase and shed a few tears for the loss of our precious freedom.

Prior to their landing, the Germans bombed our coast line thinking our Martello Towers were gun emplacements. At least two people were killed and several were injured; a bullet passed through the hood of a friend's pram whilst he was in it!

When the Germans landed, they found furniture still on sale and

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quickly bought what they could ship to their homes, paying in German Reichmarks. Orders appeared in the Evening Post almost every night; living conditions gradually changed; there was a permanent overhanging apprehension. The occupying forces gave little trouble but we were under the jackboot

4. Daily Life Continues

We tried to live as normally as possible. Miss Nora Mossop, who lived nearby, was a University student unable to return to England. She opened a nursery school which both my sons attended with several other children. She was an excellent teacher and the children enjoyed her tuition in the comfortable surrounding of her home. Lewis and Anthony were young enough to accept the prevailing conditions as normal. Our neighbour Mr Vautier made excellent wooden toys for Christmas and birthdays, and second hand toys could be bartered for.

General living conditions became harder as small stocks dwindled and could not be replaced. We turned our garden into a vegetable patch and bartering became a way of life. Reichmarks and Jersey paper currency were in use. We had a small potato barrel of bicarbonate of soda with which my husband was conducting an experiment; this I could exchange for other necessities. I never saw anyone in rags at any time; neatly darned and very patched YES, but never ever in rags. Shoes were difficult. We could buy wooden shoes but they were heavy and uncomfortable. I made shoes for the boys from rubber motor tyres and carpet webbing; they were more often off, than on. I bartered for a pair of running shoes with spikes for myself and

my kind neighbour filed down the spikes. They had beautiful soft kid tops but on hot days I stuck in the tarmac and on the wet days in the mud. Not very successful! My husband wore sandshoes at work, saving his walking shoes for travelling to and fro. These, with a pair of strong golf shoes and garden wellies, lasted him the occupation.

For cooking there was no gas or electricity; I used a brazier with a metal sheet across it which supported two saucepans. I brought these to the boil, filling them previously with vegetables and transferring them to a haybox for overnight cooking. I ground gleaned grain to make porridge with skim milk which we could collect by walking into St Helier. The few shops open had things to barter or exchange. I made potato flour, sugar beet syrup, tea and coffee substitutes, carrageen (seaweed) moss jelly.

Fuel was sawdust mixed with tar. We all went wooding and gleaning. Dry wood was needed to start fires plus twists of newspaper. Sadly my wooden garden shed housing my pram and clothes wringer was stolen. It had been carefully locked, but it disappeared complete overnight. People were desperate for dry wood.

My husband had a bad accident. Walking into a sharp metal corner of a crate, he split a kidney. The doctor could only advise bed rest and permanent hot water bottles. This took extra fuel. A kind neighbour helped me cut down a tree with a cross cut saw (I was younger then). It was very hard work and we had chosen a very large tree. However, it fell in the wrong direction into the marsh, where the high rise flats are now built at La Mare. It buried itself in the boggy surface and I had to ask several neighbours to help lift

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it over the wall into our garden. Of course I had to share it with them. Then with a cleat hammer and saw I chopped my portion into pieces small enough to fit my brazier. My husband got all his hot water bottles and slowly re-covered.

Immediately on the German arrival, rumours were rife, one was that all cars would be confiscated. We had changed ours for a new one, it was our pride and joy. We drove to the cliff head trying to decide whether or not to drive it over the top onto the rocks and sea rather than hand it over. Finally we drove it home reasoning the war could be over in a few weeks; we had unshakeable faith in Winston Churchill. The rumour became fact; our car was requisitioned and transport became an ongoing problem.

Lewis used his bicycle. As time passed, we bartered for several bicycle tyres until wheels were eventually reduced to hose piping and finally rags around the rims. We had also been ordered to hand in our radios, luckily we had two!! We cut a hole in the lounge wooden floor under our settee and put the remaining radio down into it. We rolled the carpet back over the hole. My husband used to go down and sit on a sack of grain, light a candle and copy down the news. I would keep watch for callers, most of whom were trustworthy friends. All actions against German orders were punishable by prison sentence, for which there was a waiting list, or deportation, or death.

Soap was non-existent. I used wood ash and ivy leaf solution for clothes, I had a container of soft soap which I guarded carefully for the children, (it lasted three and a half years) and three tablets of pears soap, a real treasure which my husband and I used only on Sundays.

5. Community Spirit

We attended Samares Methodist Mission, where the Pastor was Mr Wiston. Miss Eunice Billot helped in all areas and she asked me to arrange a sacred concert after Sunday Service. This was very well received and I wondered if this could be extended to cover weekdays. I received permission to do this and everyone who was asked to take part, was very enthusiastic. It was a welcome diversion.

The people came mainly from Glendale and Balmoral Avenues, so the Glenmoral Concert Party was born. We were about twenty in the cast. We put on several shows, plus pantomimes performed by children. The stage was erected in the mission at the opposite end from the worship end; strong wooden planks were placed across potato barrels half filled with heavy stones; the curtains were hung by splendid volunteers. Every performance was packed, people sitting on window ledges or bringing their own stools. Folk who took part were very ingenious about their costumes. When we performed part of Chu Chin Chow, a retired missionary loaned us pure silk hand embroidered mandarin robes and inlaid ivory fans. We were thrilled to wear them and delighted and relieved to return them in perfect condition.

We all decided the collections should go to the Samares Methodist Sunday School Building Fund. There was no Sunday School building at that time and my husband, who was our treasurer, suggested an Island wide appeal. This was well supported. We also, by unanimous vote agreed to send a large donation to the Red Cross Association. Some time after the war the Sunday School was built. I like to think it is a memorial to those people who gave so generously

of their time and effort. Even though they were all near starving they could still sing and raise a laugh.

The Glenmoral Concert Party were kind enough to present me with the large handmade poster advertising the last concert performed by us at Samares Methodist Mission on May 7 1945, signed on the reverse side by all the cast, with individual items listed and the amount raised that evening which was collected in Union Jack flags. I have treasured it through the years and recently passed it on to Mr John Le Cornu at Samares Methodist Mission for his safe keeping.

santa claus

As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual;

"And what would you like for Christmas?"

The child stared at him open-mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped;

"Didn't you get my e-mail?"



Does Santa call his elves "subordinate clauses?"

Doug Hecox

The three stages of a man's life:

1. He believes in Santa Claus.
2. He doesn't believe in Santa Claus.
3. He *is* Santa Claus.

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The Methodist story: part 3

Conversion.....

John and Charles Wesley's conversion experiences came just three days apart in 1738 and it was the younger brother who was first to finally discover that relationship with God that they had both longed for. Extracts from his journal show how deep was Charles's spiritual turmoil and desire. On Saturday 18th December 1736 he wrote he was 'in a murmuring, discontented spirit'; 15th September 1737 found him 'with earnest desires of resigning myself up entirely to God'; on 9th October he is 'still growing in humility and love' and on 4th December 'much melted at the Sacrament'.

In the spring of 1738 Charles was taken ill with pleurisy. He was lodging with a certain Mr Bray at the time, someone he was a little dismissive of as being low of intelligence, and as he lay in his sick bed on night (it was 20th May) Charles heard a woman come into his room and say 'In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth arise and believe, and thou shalt be healed of all thy infirmities.' The woman was Bray's sister and after that moment Charles found the assurance of salvation which he had so hungered after. He wrote 'I found myself at peace with God, and rejoiced in the hope of loving Christ.....I saw that by faith I stood; and the continual support of faith which kept me from falling.' Two days later he embarked on his career as a hymn writer.

Meanwhile John, having seen the effect of this conversion experience on his brother, plunged into despondency. Perhaps he wondered if it was ever to be something he would share in? He was already struggling with the ques-

tion of faith – was it a gift and, if so, when would he receive it? Three days after his brother's conversion John opened his bible and the words before him read 'Thou art not far from the kingdom of God.' He felt similar messages coming to him throughout that day and was prompted, albeit very unwillingly, to go to a Moravian society meeting in Aldersgate Street that evening. Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans was being read aloud and John describes what happened. 'About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation, and an assurance was given me, that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.'

What had happened? We talk about the conversion of the Wesley brothers but from what and what to? It wasn't as if either of them were a pagan converting to Christianity. Nor were they converted from being nominal Christians to committed ones, their commitment was already beyond doubt. And, as one bright spark to rightly said, they certainly weren't converted from Anglicanism to Methodism! So what was the nature of their conversion? Well, it was more of a change, a shift, of theological perception and emphasis. It was a culmination of many things that had happened to each brother, a powerful spiritual experience when both head and heart together felt confident in God's salvation promise. A surrendering to God of all the doubts and questions that enabled a realisation to happen – the realisation of being a child of God, loved and accepted by him, that brought

with it a sense of peace and assurance. It was a sensation which Charles went on to express in his hymns and which John saw could be experienced by all people. He now wanted others to hear the 'good news' and a new phase of the ministry of the Wesley brothers began.

a prayer for the general life of the church.....

God of past, present and future,
we come to pray to you
as we think about the life and witness of this church
through the years and into the generations to come.

God of our past,
we thank you for the founding fathers and mothers
who responded to your call to establish this church.
We thank you for all its faithful people
who have worked and prayed and given themselves, out of love for you,
to those both within and outside these walls.

God of the present,
we thank you for your unfailing love that encourages, inspires and enables us
to continue sharing the good news of Christ
with one another and with our neighbours.
We pray for those of this church and community
who are ill, anxious or sorrowful.
We ask that our hearts may be open to your presence
and our ears may be tuned to your call.

God of the future,
we do not know what lies ahead,
but we hear you challenging us to walk with you and with one another,
without fear, into the unknown future.
Forgive us our past mistakes and failings,
and clear our vision to see the way ahead.

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Can You Hear the Angels Singing?

Listen!
Can't you hear the angels singing
where the ordinary people go about their business?
As much in the office or factory
the busy shopping precinct
the suburban home
the sheltered flat
as on a Bethlehem hill
the angels' song is ringing.



The message is not exclusively for shepherds,
though to hear it needs an ear attuned
to the unexpected undertones of hope.
All are invited to join the headlong rush,
to see what the God of Love has done:
a baby laid in a manger.

This is an eternal song,
but here and now it is sung for us.
For a moment heaven has come to earth,
and we share the wonder and the worship
of the angel choirs.

The Child will grow to bear a cross
and then, at last, the fragile curtain
which hides the holy place will be torn away.
The glory of heaven and the peace of earth
are inseparably joined in him.
for him the music of creation harmonises with
the praise of all that lives.

Listen, can you hear angels singing?
Will you raise your voice and join the song?

Peter Trow

do you know your Christmas songs?

1. _H_ _ _ _H_L_ _ _ _O_ _
2. _R_ _T_ _ _A_ _H_ _ _ _
3. R_ _K_ _M_ _N_ _I_ _H_ _ _S_ _ _ _
4. _H_ _ _ _C_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
5. _I_ _L_ _ _E_ _ _ _
6. _W_ _ _I_ _ _ _A_ _ _E_ _
7. H_ _ _E_ _T_ _ _O_ _ _E_ _ _ _
_ _ _I_ _ _ _A_ _
8. _A_ _Y_ _ _O_ _ _H_ _ _ _
9. L_ _ _L_ _ _O_ _ _E
10. _H_ _ _I_ _ _LE_ _R_ _M_ _ _O_ _
11. F_ _ _S_ _ _ _E_ _ _N_ _ _A_ _
12. D_ _C_ _ _H_ _ _ _LL_ _
13. W_ _ _T_ _ _ _O_ _ _ _L_ _N
14. _IL_ _ _ - _I_ _ _T
15. _O_ _T_ _ _Y_ _ _N_ _ _ _
T _C_ _ _ _M_ _ _ _M_ _
16. D_ _ _G_ _ON_ _M_ _R_ _Y_ _O_ _
I _ _

leprosy mission update

I am delighted to tell you that the amount collected by members of SHMC since the beginning of March 2010 now totals £588.00, a marvellous effort for which the Mission is most grateful.
Plans are under consideration for a special Mission project for Jersey next year which, if they come to fruition will, hopefully, involve the use of SHMC's premises so, watch this space for news!
Meanwhile, another big 'thank you' to all who collect for the work of this most worthwhile charity.

Grace Le R

p.s. when we meet on the first Monday of each month for breakfast, each of those sharing the food, fellowship & fun contribute a £1 coin into whosever's Leprosy 'pot' has been brought. So the more of you who join us for the monthly breakfast, the better the collection!

Gala night

The Gala held at The Mayfair hotel on Saturday 12 November was a great success. Both the hotel and The Little Big Band were amazing and everyone enjoyed themselves. Some very nimble feet were spotted during the dancing after the meal (Trevor & Jane)!

At the last count the total raised was £1750.00. The fund raising group would like to thank everyone who supported the evening and made it such a success. The money will make such a difference for the family at The Haven. Particular thanks go to Charlotte, who masterminded the whole event. Congratulations on a super 'do'.

Why do we continue to support Esperado?

The following is an extract from an email from Jayel Jardim;-
Jane— our main problem is that the sponsors that we still have been doing their best to ensure that Esperado has all they need-with no help from our fellow South-Africans-we need other sponsors beside all you wonderful people and Simon, our need to become self-sufficient-solar geysers-wind and solar power generation is becoming of utmost importance, the outlay is expensive, thank all of u for not forgetting about us. God bless. Jayel

In September we were able to send out £300 to help an immediate crisis and Jane received the following 'thank you'

To all our friends at St Helier – thank-you thank-you for all your help and the funds that we received from you—Janet & Steve dropped it off here at Sophia. It relieves a bit of the daily pressure. Our vehicle is still broken and are still relying on help of others to fetch the food. We have

left the electricity cut off for the last six months as we cannot explain why it is so high. After numerous emails we get no answer - and therefore keep it off- we can no longer pump borehole water for drinking and home usage. And it has to be transported to the various houses - and with no vehicle except my car- and those people who want to be paid. My car is entering a state of disrepair as it has not been made to transport the weight it does. All are in good health and we face what get put in our path- thank you all again from the bottom of our hearts - God bless all of you- from all of us here at Esperado field of Dreams.

Has the question been answered?

significant date?

Missing the significance of a child's birth is nothing new. History is full of examples of this kind of thing.

Take 1809. The big news was Napoleon's bloody military victories against Austria and then, in the Peninsular War, against Spain. These battles filled the front pages.

But the birth columns for that year might have shown the following names:
William Galdstone, who became one of England's finest statesmen.

Alfred Tennyson, who would one day become a great poet.

Edgar Allan Poe, who became one of America's greatest writers of fiction.

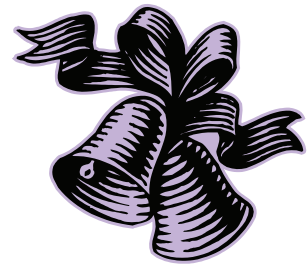
Charles Darwin, who would become the world's most influential scientist.

And, in a rugged log cabin in Har-
din County, Kentucky, Abraham
Lincoln.

The newspapers of the day were full of reports about Napoleon's battles. But history was really being shaped not on the battlefields of Europe but in the cradles of England and America.

In the same way, the news two thousand years ago was about Rome, and particularly the census edict from Augustus. But world history was being shaped in a manger in Bethlehem, and only a few shepherds and some wealthy Arabs saw it.

Adapted from Chuck Swindol
taken from 'A stocking full of
Christmas'
Compiled by Mark Stibbe



a Christmas list

Fear less, hope more;
Eat less, chew more;
Whine less, breathe more;
Talk less, say more;
Hate less, love more;
And all good things will be yours

Suddenly the angel was joined by a vast host of others - the armies of heaven - praising God;
"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to all whom God favours"

(Luke 2:13-14)

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Messy Church

Since writing last time in the magazine we have had two Messy Churches. We talked about Joshua in October and Joseph in November. Joshua, was a lot of fun, as the children made all sorts of noisy and bright things to take into the Church, with them. They walked around the "walls," very quietly 6 times then on the 7th time blew their trumpets, lit their pretend torches, and waved their ribbons to bring the walls down. Building towers and walls with big polystyrene bricks, was also very popular, as was the graffiti wall and icing biscuits. 32 children were there and all went home with a full carrier bag of craft and a full tummy of spaghetti bolognese and cakes.

Joseph was our latest, and also our Messy Church's birthday. Yes, our Messy Church has been up and running now for a full year. It has been an amazing year and we have touched so many families' lives by providing this outreach ministry, that we could not abandon it now. This is definitely one of the ways forward, in bringing the Bible and the Good News of Jesus to families. Our Church should and must be proud of their Messy Church, we are doing something really good for God and He is blessing it each time. A big thank-you to all helpers.

Since it was Messy Church's Birthday we had rainbow jellies (to go with the theme) and a Birthday Cake.



Something to make you smile:
One of the little girls who comes to both Little Rascals and Messy Church, was ending a prayer.
As we all said Amen. She thought it would be more politically correct to say, Are lady....!

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worship december 2011

4th	10.30am	Morning worship Mrs Pat Tourtel
11th	10.30am	Junior Church Nativity Rev Liz Hunter
15th	3.30pm	Messy Church
18th	10.30am	Holy Communion & receiving of gifts Rev Liz Hunter
	6.30pm	Carol Service at The Bay
24th	5pm 11.30pm	Chritingle Holy Communion Rev Liz Hunter
Christmas Day		
25th	10.30am	Christmas Family Service Rev Liz Hunter
January 2012		
1st	10.30am	United Morning worship Rev Graeme Halls
8th	10.30am	Morning worship Dr Nola Webster
15th	10.30am	Covenant Service Rev Liz Hunter
	6.30pm	Circuit service at Georgetown
22nd	10.30am	Family service Rev Liz Hunter



the magazine
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*News and views welcomed -
advertise your planned events -
report on events you have shared*

*The next magazine is due out on
Sunday 29 January 2012
articles for this edition should reach
the editor by
**Monday 23 January 2012 at the
latest***

*editor
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don't forget.....

Coffee bar 10am-12noon Mondays & Wednesdays

Monday **Baby Rascals** group 2-3.30pm
Tuesday **Little Rascals** Parent/toddler group 10am-12

Wednesday **Prayer time** 12noon-12.30pm
Communion service 12.30pm -1pm
Lunchtime Rascals 12.30pm-3pm

N.B. Rascals groups are 'term time' only.

Friday **Lunch and 'stay-a-while'**

House groups: Tuesdays (tel:730109) 8pm
Discovery House Group
Tuesdays (tel: 767459) 7.30pm
Fridays 2pm FAB at SHMC



Check your pigeon holes in the hall foyer for messages.
Read the church notice boards regularly - you might
miss something really interesting!

centre website address

www.shmc.btck.co.uk

cake sale for Esperado after
family worship on 22 january

