

The Link



Dec 2024/Jan 2025



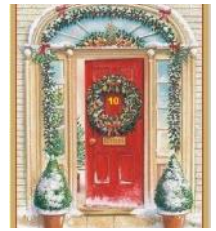
His Birth Gives Us

H**O****P****E**

in our villages, towns & cities

Shanklin United Reformed Church www.shanklinurc.co.uk

View From Number 10



When a child is born...

As we dive into the Advent season, the culture around us goes crazy for Christmas. It is still the major focus of the year for many people, yet the true reason for the season is largely left aside.

The twee Christmas cards and nativity scenes paint a romantic fairy tale picture of the birth of Jesus. For Mary and Joseph, it must have been a really challenging time, having to travel some 70 miles down to Bethlehem because Caesar Augustus wanted a head count of his empire. Yet the Lord Almighty used this decree to get them to just the right place to fulfil the ancient prophecy in Micah 5.

Travel in those days was tough and dangerous, and no fun at all if you were heavily pregnant. And there was no comfortable place to stay when they got to the small town near Jerusalem – they weren't the only ones having to register. So, the baby was born amidst the animals, probably in the lower area of a simple rustic home.

God's one and only son – *"the Son of the Most High"* (Luke 1:32), entered our world in the most humble of circumstances. Paul reflects on how the one who was *"in very nature God... ..made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant"* (Philippians 2:7).

Shepherds arrived after a divine visitation on a nearby hillside, and sometime later wise men turned up from a far-off country because they'd seen in the stars that a new king had been born. Herod, who ruled the area for the Romans, was paranoid and sought to kill this rival, leading to the little family becoming refugees in Egypt.

This is the most remarkable tale that still beggars belief – yet we are called to believe it; to trust that this is the way the very essence of God came into the world, took on flesh and blood, and made his dwelling among us (John 1:14).



In that famous prologue to his Gospel, John uses a Greek word **Logos** that means *word, reason, discourse or knowledge* (from which we get logic). This divine Word, through whom all things were

made at the very beginning of creation, arrived quietly in the most unexpected way. Phillips Brooks caught it beautifully in the carol:

*How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
“In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.”
(John 1:4)*

John the Baptist’s father, Zechariah, glimpsed the dawn of this new era in his prophetic words that spoke of salvation and the forgiveness of sins – *“the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”* (Luke 1:78-79)

Isaiah saw it hundreds of years before – *“to us a child is born, to us a son is given.”* (9:6). No ordinary child but one who would be truly great and carry titles like Mighty God and Everlasting Father – and one who would reign on David’s throne, establishing justice and righteousness forever. This was to be a birth that changed history.

Fresh hope entered the broken and lost world with the birth of Jesus, God’s promised Messiah. We rightly still celebrate those incredible events around Bethlehem a whole two millennia later.

Songwriters keep returning to this eternal life-changing story:

*A ray of hope flitters in the sky
A tiny star lights up way up high
All across the land dawns a brand new morn
This comes to pass when a child is born*

Song by Helmut Rulofs and Fred Jay



I pray that you may grasp the full significance of Jesus’ coming into the world; the impact of which is still changing lives today.

With all good wishes for the Christmas and New Year season

Bria

Prayer



New Year Prayer

We plan to meet on Saturday 4th January at 09:00 for breakfast to then begin the New Year in prayer and worship. Details to follow.

Please mark this on your calendar now. The Elders want to encourage the whole church family to spend some quality times in God's presence and seeking his will for us as we go forward together.

Tuesday Prayer at 19:30

This is still being held via Zoom using the same account as for other activities and groups:

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3242665584?
pwd=ZTIXZzBLWnkrWTNBY2JBK1o0K2ZXdz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3242665584?pwd=ZTIXZzBLWnkrWTNBY2JBK1o0K2ZXdz09)

Meeting ID: 324 266 5584 & Password: 936536.

Text Prayer Network

This has proved a really efficient method of getting prayer needs around. So, if you have an urgent and important issue that needs immediate cover, please text Lou on **07474 273119** (or, as a back-up - Jean Cunningham: 07854 324809) with your prayer request and she will mobilise a team of intercessors by forwarding the message to the group. Each of the team will pray and then delete the message.

If you'd like to be added to this network, please get in touch with Lou and she will brief you on the protocols.

Prayer for Israel

Is held each Monday at 14:30, normally at Roy, Melodie and Carol's home

Please get in touch with Roy & Melodie for more details:
melodieroywilson@gmail.com or ☎ 866912



PRMI

Presbyterian - Reformed Ministries International

Brian will be travelling to the USA again in January for another Board Meeting of PRMI – leaving the Island on 15th January, ready to fly with his friend and colleague Paul Stokes to North Carolina the next day.

The whole area is still recovering from the devastating floods in late September, and the river valley outside The Community of the Cross is quite unrecognisable and water supplies are still being restored.

The Board meets together from 18th – 21st and then he'll stay for the opening part of the **Dunamis Fellowship International** in a nearby conference centre, before flying home to arrive back early on 24th – he'll be there when Donald Trump is sworn in on Inauguration Day. Your prayers would again be much appreciated as there are a number of significant challenges for the ministry at this time.

Christmas Activities & Services at Shanklin URC



we welcome you

to celebrate the birth of Jesus

Saturday 7 th	19:30	Shanklin Town Brass Band Christmas Concert (see page 37)
Saturday 21 st	15:30	Messy Christmas - family fun
Sunday 22 nd	10:30	Carol Service & Nativity
Christmas Eve	23:00	Carols on the Steps
	23:30	Christmas Eve Communion
Christmas Day	10:30	Christmas Day Service

Services are also streamed live to our **YouTube** channel
We invite you to make gifts in support of a local YMCA family project - see [page 9](#)

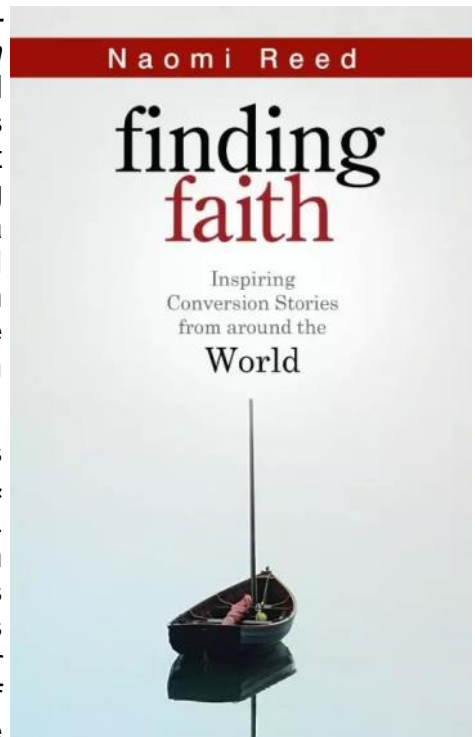
Shanklin URC Bookshop

During December the church bookshop will continue with its normal opening hours up to, and including, Wednesday 18th. It will then be closed from Thursday 19th until mid-February. This break allows the annual stocktake to be carried out and gives the bookshop volunteers a well-deserved break.

Sometimes it is good to have a book where you can dip in and out to read short sections rather than reading through a whole book. The bookshop currently has a couple of books that have a compilation of biographical stories.

One of them is *'finding faith - inspiring conversion stories from around the world'* by Naomi Reed (£9.99.) In this book the author tells 13 stories of people from different cultures and faiths encountering Jesus. Their stories come from a variety of places around the world such as Uganda, an airport in Singapore, a hospital in Alice Springs, Australia and the Amazon jungle.

Another book with short stories is *'101 Amazing Stories of Hope & Faith'* by Robert Petterson (£8.99). The book features people from various walks of life. Each section is only a couple of pages long so it is ideal if you are looking for something that won't need a lot of time each time you pick up the book. Some of the stories relate to well-known people including Albert Einstein, Beethoven, James Earl Jones (the voice of Darth Vader) while others tell the story of people you may not have heard of. Regardless of whether the story relates to a famous person or not the writer hopes that the stories will inform and inspire the reader.



ENCOUNTER

Usually on the last Sunday of each month
at 10:30

A café style meeting place to drop in and enjoy
some refreshments



...a relaxed time of Friendship, Fun, Food
and exploring Faith...

with craft, songs, challenges, prayers...

EVERYONE is welcome – why not bring a friend?

The next café service will be on 26th January
exploring a theme relevant to all ages

– café serving from 10:15



Real Advent Calendar

We have some of these Fairtrade calendars which include a Christmas story booklet. Let Janet or Brian know if you'd like to buy one – they are sadly not in supermarkets again this year.

They cost **£5.00**

Good News for All!

At this time of year when we remember the coming of our Lord Jesus as a babe into this world and as believers, we also look to His coming again in glory, what better time to give 'good news of great joy' to family, friends and neighbours!

This month's edition of the monthly 'Good News' paper (available to read online at www.goodnews-paper.org.uk/viewlatesteditionspage.htm) has several great articles relating to Christmas, including the headline article 'The Light of Christmas' -



Our Christmas message explains why Jesus is the Light

Other contributions include:

- **J John's Christmas** - UK evangelist J John tells how he found the real meaning of Christmas
- **Strictly Star** - The faith of JLS singer J B Gill who's been competing on Strictly Come Dancing
- **Dan Walker's Carol** - Dan tells why Once in Royal is his favourite Christmas carol
- **Lionel Messi** - World's greatest footballer gives glory to God for his talent
- **Fern Britton's Angel Encounter** - The TV presenter reveals why she once saw an angel
- **Christmas Miracle** - A counsellor discovers how much God cares about us

Do take a copy to pop in with your Christmas greetings!

God's blessings to you for Christmas and the New Year.



**Sunday
8th December
17:00 at the URC**

A short reflective service, with friends from other congregations and the wider community, to remember loved ones at Christmas – invitation cards will be available to pass to friends and neighbours.

All are most welcome to come in support.

Refreshments to follow and an offering in support of our hospice.

Christmas Appeal for 2024

This year we will be supporting the Mother and Baby Unit at the YMCA, Winchester House

For full details of the current needs please see Rod or Ann Foster.

Once again, we encourage you to **send just one Christmas card** to the whole church family and post it on the noticeboard - and to give what you may have saved to our Christmas Appeal. We don't need to send cards to the people we see week by week, and we don't want anyone to feel left out. Let's greet everyone together!

Connection Quiz

1. Who was a Blue Peter presenter, with a dog called Shep?
2. Which group had a hit with 'Mr Blue Sky' in 1977 - from the album 'Out of the Blue'?
3. Lincolnshire, Cumberland, Chorizo, for example.
4. Who played 'Honey Ryder' in the Bond film 'Dr No'?
5. What river flows through Paris?
6. And so, what is the **connection** between the answers to questions 1 - 4?



Answers are on [page 44](#)

**Come to
'The Well'**

a place for

**Living Well
Together**

A safe place for friendship, support and a refreshing time – here at Shanklin URC:

Wednesdays 11:00 – 13:00

Free refreshments and craft activities

Just drop in at any point



Open New Year's Day

Shared Worship in The Bay



Share Sunday evenings with friends from various local congregations across The Bay

1st December 17:00 Lake Methodist Church,
Sandown Road, Lake

8th December 17:00 Shanklin URC
Light Up a Life - with Mountbatten

No meeting on 15th, 22nd and 29th December

5th January 17:00 Church of the Sacred Heart
Atherley Road, Shanklin
Epiphany Carol Service

Alternative Gifts

Christmas will soon be upon us; do you feel it seems to come more quickly every passing year?

A wonderful way of celebrating this season is to give alternative gifts to family and friends and thereby blessing people all over the world who have so little or need our help.

How does this work? You can have fun with loved ones looking at the various charity booklets that are available, or alternatively looking online, to name just a few of the ministries one can support:

- **Samaritan's Purse** - www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/be-part-of-it/give/gift-catalogue
- **Tearfund** - www.tearfund.org/get-involved/resources
- **Leprosy Mission** - www.leprosymission.org.uk/donate/other-ways-give/gifts-for-life/
- **Release International** - www.charitycardshop.com/releaseinternational/category/3
- **Barnabas Aid** - www.barnabas.gives/gb/
- **Love Russia** - www.loverussia.org/alternativegifts
- **RNLI** - shop.rnli.org/pages/virtual-gifts

Many of these are available at church and have gifts both for a small amount to something larger to contribute towards, for example from Samaritan's Purse:

- Providing hot meals for a child £5.00
- Towards drilling a village well £15.00
- Help a poor farming family £28.00

And many other brilliant ideas. These can be ordered online by using the link above or by telephone 020 8559 1180.

If you would like to know more, do please ask me – this is such a great way to support needy people in our world and not only at Christmas, but throughout the year for example, birthdays, anniversaries and any other special occasions.

Blessings in Jesus' Name,
Jane H

Reading the Bible

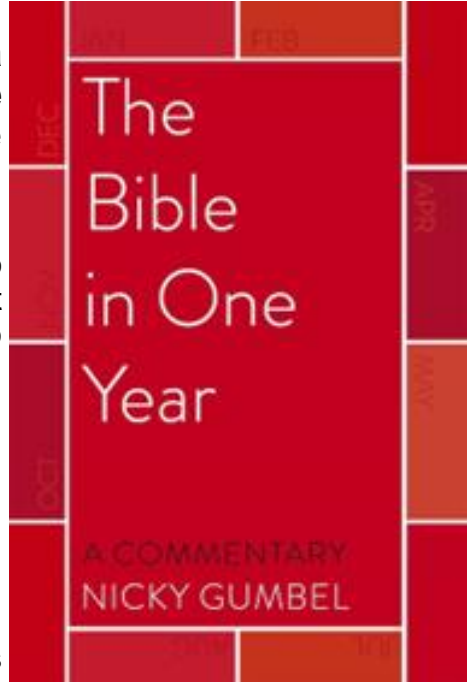
During 2024, I have been using Nicky and Pippa Gumbel's '**Bible in One Year**' (BIOY) to navigate The Word.

It has been a constant blessing ~ I wholeheartedly recommend this to all who want to know more about our Lord, and what He is saying to us today.

Each day there are 3 readings...

- i) from the Psalms or Proverbs
- ii) from the New Testament
- iii) from the Old Testament

Nicky's commentary follows each and finally, Pippa rounds the day's readings off.



The BIOY can be downloaded free of charge to your mobile, or tablet or accessed on your computer and is also available in print.

There are 3 versions of BIOY to choose from...

1. The first is complete and takes you through the entire Bible over 365 days (averaging 20-25 minutes per day).
2. Secondly, there is an express version, highlighting the key verses but retaining Nicky's full commentary (10-12 minutes).
3. Lastly, a youth version, based on the Express version but remixed for younger folk.

If you want to find out more, go to: bible.alpha.org/en/ and if you have any questions or need help, let me know...

Happy reading!

Robin



“It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery” (Galatians 5:1)

New Year Living

I always find this time of year exciting... as we journey through Advent to the manger in Bethlehem and then, as our Christmas celebrations of the birth of our Lord draw to a close, we look to what we might expect from the new year. In his new year devotions for 2024, Neil Anderson spoke of our hope in the Holy Spirit's guidance and our need to live responsibly for today...

Robin

The Holy Spirit's Guidance

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” Romans 8:14

A young pilot had just passed the point of no return when the weather worsened. Visibility dropped to a matter of feet as fog descended to the earth. Putting total trust in the cockpit instruments was a new experience for him, for the ink was still wet on the certificate verifying that he was qualified for instrument flying.

The landing worried him the most. His destination was a crowded metropolitan airport he wasn't familiar with. He would be in radio contact with the tower in a few minutes. Until then, he was alone with his thoughts. His instructor had practically forced him to memorise the rule book. He didn't care for it at the time, but now he was thankful.

Finally, he heard the voice of the air traffic controller. "I'm going to put you on a holding pattern," the controller radioed. 'Great!' thought the pilot. However, he knew that his safe landing was in the hands of this person. He had to draw upon his previous instruction and

training and trust the voice of an air traffic controller he couldn't see. Aware that this was no time for pride, he informed the controller, "This is not a seasoned pro up here. I would appreciate any help you could give me".

"You've got it!" he heard back.

For the next 45 minutes, the controller gently guided the pilot through the blinding fog. As course and altitude corrections came periodically, the young pilot realised the controller was guiding him around obstacles and away from potential collisions. With the words of the rule book firmly placed in his mind, and with the gentle voice of the controller in his ear, he landed safely at last.

The Holy Spirit guides us through the maze of life much like that air traffic controller. The controller assumed that the young pilot understood the instructions of the flight manual. His guidance was based on that. Such is the case with the Holy Spirit; He can guide us if we have a knowledge of God's Word and His will established in our minds.

Lord, as the new year begins, I choose to be sensitive to Your voice and resolutely committed to doing Your will.

Living Responsibly Today

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

Trusting God for tomorrow is a question of our worth. Jesus said, ***"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?"*** (Matthew 6:26)

Birds are not created in the image of God. We are! Birds will not inherit the kingdom of God, but we shall. Birds are mortal; mankind is immortal. If God takes care of the birds, so much more will He take care of us.

That's why the apostle Paul could write, ***"My God will meet all your***

needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.” (Philippines 4:19) and “If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?”. For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:30-33)

God lays His own reputation on the line. If we trust and obey, He will provide. This is a question of God's integrity.

God's will is that we live responsibly today and trust Him for tomorrow. Are we people of little faith, or do we really believe that the fruit of the Spirit will satisfy us more than earthly possessions? Do we really believe that if we hunger and thirst after righteousness, we shall be satisfied? Do we really believe that if we seek to establish God's kingdom, God will supply all our needs according to His riches in glory? If we do, then we will seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to us.

Thank You, Lord, for so faithfully caring for me. I gladly cast all of my cares about today and my future to You.

Neil Anderson

***Freedom in Christ Ministries
Daily Devotionals***

Used by permission

In John's gospel, Jesus says:

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

When faced with “troubles” I bring to mind what the writer to the Hebrews says at the beginning and end of chapter 12 (taken from

The Message version):

“Do you see what this means – all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we’d better get on with it. Strip down, start running – and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we’re in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed – that exhilarating finish in and with God – he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he’s there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he ploughed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!” (Hebrews 12:1-3 The Message)

“For God is not an indifferent bystander. He’s actively cleaning house, torching all that needs to burn, and he won’t quit until it’s all cleansed. God himself is Fire!” (Hebrews 12:29 The Message)

Father God, in times of joy, in times of sadness and in times of stress help us to fix our eyes on the Lord Jesus Christ ~ Your one and only Son, given for us.

Thank you that by Your indwelling Holy Spirit, we are given guidance and strength to remain walking with Him, whatever we face in the years ahead.

*May I wish you all a blessed Christmas
and a faithful New Year*

Robin

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Jesus in the Old Testament

Genesis – He is the seed of Woman

Exodus – The Passover Lamb

Leviticus – The High Priest

Numbers – The Pillar of cloud by day and the Pillar of fire at night

Deuteronomy – The Prophet like Moses

Joshua – The Captain of our salvation

Judges – Our Judge & Law giver

Ruth – Our Kinsman Redeemer

1 & 2 Samuel – Our trusted Prophet

Kings & Chronicles – Our reigning King

Ezra – Our faithful Scribe

Nehemiah – The Rebuilder of the broken walls of human life

Esther – Our Mordecai

Job – Our Dayspring on high and our ever living Redeemer

Psalms – He is the Lord our Shepherd

Proverbs & Ecclesiastes – He is our wisdom

Song of Solomon – Our Bridegroom

Isaiah – The Prince of Peace

Jeremiah – The Righteous Branch

Lamentations – The weeping Prophet

Ezekiel – The Wonderful four-faced Man

Daniel – The fourth man in the fiery furnace

Hosea – The faithful husband forever married to the backslider

Joel – The baptizer with the Holy Spirit

Amos – Our burden bearer

Obadiah – The Mighty One to save

Jonah – Our great foreign Missionary

Micah – The Messenger with beautiful feet

Nahum – The Avenger of God's elect

Habakkuk – God's evangelist crying "Revive Thy work in the midst of the years"

Zephaniah – Our Saviour

Haggai – The Restorer of God's lost heritage

Zechariah – The Fountain opened up in the house of David for sin

Malachi – The Sun of Righteousness with healing in his wings

Eileen P

A Word

This was a word given to me at the 24/7 worship in Newport and given at the service on 17th November, which I was asked to submit to the magazine:

Jesus didn't just suffer a few cuts and bruises on the cross- he died 100%, dead and buried.

God didn't just whitewash over a few sins, he totally eradicated them 100% wiped out, as though they never existed.

God gives 100%, always.

He doesn't want 50% Christians or 60%, 70%, or 80%. He wants and deserves 100%.

You can't give, by yourself, 100%. God knows that. So if you turn to him and say "Lord, I want to give you 100% of my life." Then God will give you everything you need to give him everything.

I guess my experience says if you give God 100% he isn't going to give you less than 100% back.

Richard

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Please remember to pray for our brothers and sisters – especially at times such as Christmas and Easter when they are particularly vulnerable to more attacks in some parts of the world.

Brian will be leading Carols in the community:

Friday 13th 11:00 Tile House

Wednesday 18th 19:00 Beatrice Court

Friday 20th 11:00 Springfield Nursing Home



Thank You

Rod and Ann have received the following thank you from YMCA, which they would like to be published in The Link.

On behalf of the Trustees of YMCA Fairthorne Housing, I would like to thank you so much for initiating the donation of items to the Lodge, from your members at the United Reformed Church at Shanklin and beyond.

The items you have donated make a big impact and help Jo McGrath and her team at the Lodge create a homely environment for the young mothers and their babies that we support there.

I would be grateful if you could extend my sincere thanks to all your parishioners and friends afar, whose help you have sought in managing to secure much needed help and support to Jo and the young mothers we support at the Lodge.

Thank you again for your most valued friendship and support.

Kind regards

Peter



**Saturday 21st
December**

15:30 - 17:30

Free fun for all the family
- no unaccompanied children please

Do come along and explore the story of Christmas through a Messy Church experience at Shanklin URC. This is a fun way of learning for all ages - in a hands-on way. There will be several craft activities to choose from followed by a short celebration with songs, prayers and the chance to join in telling the Nativity story, and then some delicious food all together.

Come as a family; bring the grandchildren along - any combination is fine! Enjoy it together.

For more information - speak to Yvonne Sparks or Brian and Janet Harley



Advent

A time of preparation in the build-up to Christmas. This can so often be a hectic time with few opportunities for peace and stillness.

In a world that can seem so uncertain, we have, "A hope that is certain and sure."

May this season give us time for personal renewal and reflection and also the opportunity to share, "The hope that is within us."

"God became flesh and dwelt among us and we behold His Glory."

There are those who recognised His coming then...

May we be ready to welcome Him afresh at this joyful season of, "Emmanuel – God with us," and may we be ready and prepared for when He returns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords in all His Glory.

Blessings in love in His Wonderful Name – Jesus

Jane H

Prayer for Christmas Day

Glory to the newborn King!
Praise God that we celebrate today how He became a human being and was born in the humblest of circumstances for our salvation.

Pray that the joy of this Christmas season will be felt powerfully in the Church worldwide, and especially among Christians suffering for their faith in the Lord Jesus.

We ask that every worship service will be filled with awe and wonder at the glory of the Incarnation.

Pray that the Saviour's love will be experienced by those worshipping in the shadow of war, persecution and natural disasters, and that His Church will grow in strength throughout this special day and beyond. (John 1:14)



Source: Barnabas Aid

Bible Society

They have recently shared wonderful news of their ministry in the Middle East and beyond.

The Word of God is being given to many going through extremely challenging times of life-changing disasters, wars and poverty.

This ministry is so important to support, either through individual gifts, legacies or **Bible a Month Club**. This latter provides Bibles every month to nations and people groups for the first time so often in their own language.

Please remember the Bible Society in your prayers and if you are able, in thanksgiving for the Bibles we have had freely available to us in our lives. To give a donation, however small, or join the **Bible a Month Club** and receive their regular mailings for prayer and information.

Details are available online at www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/bible-a-month or I would be very happy to share more about this ministry with you if you would like me to.

Right now, things like poverty and illiteracy are barriers to someone experiencing the Bible.

Your faithful support will provide the backbone for global Bible outreach. When people who love God's word pledge to share it each month, together you can build life-changing Bible ministries. That means rapid response during crises and the Bible reaching people who would never otherwise experience it as Bible-engagement programmes take God's word to new places.

By regularly giving £10 or more, you can put the Bible in someone's hands every month.

Blessings

Jane H



Christmas Assemblies

The lovely thing about taking assembly every week, is that Open the Book is not restricted to one assembly with Kings and shepherds all arriving at the same time. It is spread out over 3 assemblies. The first starts with Zachariah losing his speech for doubting Gabriel.



It includes Gabriel going to see Mary, Mary visiting Elizabeth then leaving before the birth of John.

The next week the shepherds are told of the birth of Jesus, and find him in a manger.





In January we try to be as accurate as possible, meaning that the Wise Ones (nobody said they were kings) enter a house and see Jesus the toddler.

All 85 year1 children at Dover Park and Haylands were given booklets about the birth of Jesus before Christmas.

The older children will be given booklets about Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection in the spring.



In His Presence

As a church, our intention on 23rd November is to be “**In His Presence**”. Although you will probably read this later than the 23rd, we would like to share our experience. But first of all, we would like to honestly ask ourselves these questions: How often do we come to the Lord just to spend time with Him? Or do we only come to Him when we have needs? Do we ever come to Him without asking Him for anything? Are we concerned about how He feels. King David was unique as ‘**a man after God’s own heart**’ – that is, he took special note of how the Lord felt about things and He related to the Lord as to a Person Who has emotion.

A small group of us have been gathering in our home weekly since Covid, which was after the two of us came back from a life-changing experience at the Galilee Worship Gathering. We started off as just our household of 3 and, when it was possible, others have joined as the Lord has brought them, seeking the Lord’s face and desiring to offer ourselves in worship without agenda.

We generally have a sense of His speaking to our hearts and drawing us closer to Himself, filling our lamps with oil. We try not to make it our aim to come in order to receive anything from Him. It is our aim to give Him ourselves, together with all our love and full attention, desiring to know Him better.

Sometimes we have long silences which become very precious as we realise how seldom the Lord does have our full attention in the busyness of life. After all, Jesus asked His three closest friends to keep **watch** with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane. They didn’t have to do anything at all but just to keep watch. Maybe He wanted them to share in the grief and trauma that He was facing as a Person. Maybe He wanted to be seen for His need of human companionship in that particular dark hour.

He had already wholeheartedly received Mary’s gift of anointing Him with precious oil, something that the other disciples, not only Judas, felt that the poor should have

benefitted from instead – yet Jesus said that wherever the Gospel is preached Mary’s sacrifice would be remembered – it must have been incredibly special to Him. But sadly, in that dark garden, Jesus came back to find them sleeping and said “Could you not stay awake with me for even one hour?”

It must mean so much to the Lord that we sit quietly in His Presence, loving Him, focusing on Him, getting to know Him more intimately and hearing His Heartbeat.

May we truly yearn to prepare a dwelling place for the King of Kings, according to the desire of His Heart. May this be our focus this Christmas season, knowing that Jesus surrendered His Place with the Father in Eternity so that can truly experience His Presence here on earth – in His first coming, as a Babe in the manger, then, as our Saviour on a Cross, and then as our Risen Lord Who wants to dwell within our hearts – and in His second coming as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Victor over all!

Melodie

Christians Against Poverty

We are one of five congregations supporting the Island project which has been based at Castlehold Baptist Church for a year. Here is an update from news last month...

Two people have now come forward and have begun training for the roles of Debt Centre Manager and Debt Coach and we are now exploring ways of funding the main post – the previous person was a volunteer.

Do please pray for guidance as the project takes fresh shape in the New Year, and for the clients currently being supported. Brian is attending a team meeting in late November.

Look out for an update at the Church Meeting where we may be asked to consider extending our support.



A Journey of faith, peace, and renewal in Korea



“God of Life, renew all creation in your love” was a prayer echoed throughout the centenary celebrations of the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCA), attended by Rev Nicola Furley-Smith, URC Secretary for Ministries, in Seoul, South Korea.

Reflecting on the trip in September, Nicola shares insights about the NCCA’s journey over the past century:

For decades, the NCCA has fostered unity and worked for peace and reconciliation between North and South Korea, particularly resonant today amid global climate crises and rising conflicts.

The celebrations recalled historic moments, such as the Tozanso Process in 1984, urging peace on the Korean Peninsula despite military tensions.

The significance of this mission was underscored by a cross gifted by the North Korean Christian community, made from wood from Mount Baekdu, which straddles China and North Korea. It symbolises a call for global Christians to carry forward the hope for unification and peace.

The NCK's work today is focused on solidarity and advocacy for disarmament, lifting sanctions on North Korea, and supporting humanitarian and ecological initiatives. During the celebrations, the Revd Prof Dr Jerry Pillay, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, affirmed that, despite political deadlocks, the gospel's call to peace persists.

Nicola also attended the General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church of Korea (PCK) and the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK), witnessing their commitment to revitalizing their congregations and serving the marginalized. The URC and PROK recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding, strengthening their shared mission for an inclusive and ecumenical church.

With inspiration from Ezekiel 47, where the "water from the sanctuary" restores life, the Assemblies renewed their dedication to being churches that "save lives and sing peace."

As we continue this journey, let us pray for unity, justice, and peace for Korea and the world.

Published on 18th November 2024 - urc.org.uk/a-journey-of-faith-peace-and-renewal-in-korea/

The latest news from around the United Reformed Church is available online at urc.org.uk/our-news-stories/latest-news/

Source: [United Reformed Church News](#)

Two very prophetable stories.

You could have heard a pin drop as the prophets of Baal pleaded for fire to burn up their sacrifice. But when Elijah suggested that Baal might have gone to the bathroom, the children collapsed in gales of laughter.



When the sun went down it was Elijah's turn. He started by digging a ditch, then poured water over the alter until the ditch was filled.





Quietly, Elijah prayed. God sent fire which devoured the bull, the wood and the alter, drying up the water in the ditch.

We can only take photos during rehearsal before the children arrive. During the actual assembly, Ahab knocked down the statue of Baal on returning to the throne room. Then it started to rain.

The following week, Elijah had been joined by Elisha, who refused to stay behind.





This meant that Elisha saw the chariot of fire coming down from heaven.



As Elijah was carried away, his cloak fell off. Elisha picked up the cloak and used it to make a path through the River Jordan.



FOCUS

**on our Christian Brothers and Sisters
being persecuted for their faith**

**Ailin's family are called cursed – but she knows
their true worth is found in Jesus**

Ailin is a teenager from Central Asia who has faced persecution – including being arrested and interrogated – with enormous courage. Both her parents are deaf, and therefore considered cursed by their community. But your prayers and support have shown Ailin and her family that they are loved.

From a young age, Ailin* from Central Asia attended church with her mum and dad. Now a teenager, Ailin considered Christianity for herself and decided that she wanted to follow Jesus – but her other Muslim relatives stepped in to stop her. “They would purposely come on Saturday and stay over to keep me from going to church on Sunday,” she says. “When I started going to church and praying more often, they forbade me from going there.”

Her relatives put even more pressure on her: “They started to force me to say the Kalimas (Islamic declaration of faith), to renounce my faith, my Christianity. But I said: ‘No, I know my God – it’s Jesus.’”

** Name changed for security reasons*

Under a curse

When her relatives realised their tactics weren't working, they brought in community leaders to put pressure on Ailin and her family. “They brought people in charge of the neighbourhood; these are the kind of people who have authority,” Ailin remembers. “They started saying: ‘Why did you become a Christian? You were a Muslim!’ I said: ‘No, I wasn't a Muslim. I never said I was a Muslim. I'm a believer now, I'm a Christian.’ They came into my house and a few people started taking pictures of my house. I said: ‘You don't have

the right to take pictures of where I live. Why are you doing this?”

Ailin’s parents couldn’t defend her – and she couldn’t defend them. Her mum and dad were born deaf, and so many people in Ailin’s community believe they’re under a curse from Allah. “Because my parents are deaf, they can’t answer or say anything,” Ailin says. “And when they humiliate my parents, then they also forbid me to do anything. ‘Your parents can’t hear, so they can’t explain it to you. You have to be a Muslim because our whole family, our whole clan, are Muslim,’ they said.”

Arrested and interrogated

When Ailin still refused to comply, the community leaders reported her and her family to the police. “The next day, at 06:30, more than 15 policemen came,” she remembers. “It was just me, my mum, and my brothers at home. I asked if I could call someone – the pastor or a lawyer. They said, ‘No, you don’t have any right to call anybody. Switch your phone off and put it away. We have permission to come into your house and look at everything.’”

On one of the bookshelves, they found a Christian book and questioned Ailin about it. The police then took her and her mother to the police station. She was afraid – but then she remembered the words of Isaiah 41:10: “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God” and found strength to face the police interrogation.

“I’m becoming a strong believer”

Eventually, Ailin and her mother were let go without charges. Since then, local Open Doors partners have supported Ailin and her parents spiritually and practically. Around Christmas, local partners distribute gifts to children and young people like Ailin – it’s a particularly special time of year for her.

“We remember the birth of Jesus Christ with our family. We cook, play different games, and celebrate around the table. I really like this holiday because the whole world celebrates it and it’s a lot of fun,” she says.

“I’m so glad I met local Open Doors partners because I have never experienced the kind of love these people have given me. I can just

tell them what moves me, and we can pray together. I have learnt a lot about Jesus through these people. Also, I can say that I'm becoming a strong believer because of these people."

Please Pray

- For Ailin and her family, that the Lord will provide for all their needs, and that they will continue to grow in their faith
- For deaf believers in Central Asia, that God will strengthen and reassure them of their worth in Christ
- That God will grant wisdom and compassion to Open Doors partners reaching out to the deaf community across Central Asia.

Source: [Open Doors](#) - used by permission

Update on Operation Christmas Child – Shoebox Appeal

As at the time of writing, the final few of the hopeful total of 125 shoeboxes are being assembled for collection shortly.

Sandra (Snell) is very grateful for the support of us at Shanklin URC and through fund-raising efforts and gifts she shares that £740.00 has been raised, which is going towards shipping costs and goods for more shoeboxes!

Three of us from church had a great time at one of Sandra's fund-raising evening meals, and after a delicious three course meal, we looked at videos of the children receiving their boxes and of the amazing impact on their lives going on into adulthood, many of them becoming followers of Jesus, after going through 'The Greatest Journey' booklets.

Do look at these videos from Samaritan's Purse at <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child-videos> - they are so moving.

Towards the end of January 2025, Sandra will be able to let us know where the boxes from the Island have gone, which will be exciting to know!

Blessings

Jane H

Shanklin Town Brass Band



Christmas Concert

*A mix of festive, traditional and modern
melodies by the town's brass band*

Saturday 7th December

19:30

Shanklin United Reformed Church

Admission Free

Retiring Collection

~~~~~

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

MORE INFO CALL 07305263402



**PRESENTS**

# **GOSPEL BEATS COMMUNITY CONCERT**

ON 6TH DECEMBER

Join us at Brown's Golf in Yaverland on Friday, December 6th, from 6:00 to 9:30 PM. Entry is FREE, but we welcome donations to support a few of our local charities. Refreshments will be on sale! If you belong to a church or choir and would like to participate, please reach out to us.

CALL 07305263402





An Invite to the.....

# All Island Celebration

**With guest speaker  
Patrick Regan OBE  
Pioneer of Kintsugi Hope,  
Director of Brighter Days**



## A coming together for Worship and Celebration

Doors open from 7pm, with displays from various island ministries, with refreshments available.  
Come early to connect and chat if you can

**31st January 2025, 7:30pm  
Cowes Enterprise College**

**Together and United as one Church**

## **Following the ‘Revive the Wight’ Prayer Event**

On behalf of the Wight Church Network, we are saying a big ‘Thank You’ to the many people who attended the Wight Church Network’s, ‘Revive the Wight’, day of prayer on Saturday. Despite it being half-term and therefore a number of folks having already told us that they would have loved to have come but had already committed to other plans before hearing of the event, we were so blessed to see just how many did come from all over the Island.

Each of the five one-hour sessions for - North & East, South & East, South & West, North & West and Central, - were led by worship teams and prayer leaders each from their own region, as we all joined together in intercession for their respective regions. The Newport Methodist Church was filled with people coming and going throughout the day – all through the 6 hour time of prayer.

In turn, we prayed with spoken words and we prayed in song. Leaders from 14 different churches from every part of the Island, led the five sessions, with participants in this prayer time coming from well over 20 different churches across the regions and from a number of expressions of different Christian backgrounds and denominations, to pray for God to visit all regions of our Island. Some stayed for more than the one session for their own region, joining in prayer for the next region to be prayed for. The six hours passed so quickly that the day ended before we knew it.

What a blessing it was to see so many people from all over the Island giving up their time to earnestly seek God together. We can be sure it pleased the heart of God. As we have referenced before, Psalm 133 tells us that when God’s people unite together, “... the Lord commanded a blessing...” Time will show what the fruit of the day will be.

It was heart-warming to hear people saying what a blessing it was for them to be part of this spiritually uplifting prayer event and we gratefully thank God for his presence through it all and for all the anointed leaders of the prayer sessions and worship sessions who led us throughout the day.

With many thanks to all of you, with every blessing,

Revs Richard & Rajinder Buxton  
Prayer Mobilisers Wight Church Network





# Dates For Your Diary

| Day | Date                 | Time           | Details                                                                |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec  | 10:30<br>17:00 | Morning Communion<br>Shared Worship @ Lake Methodist Church            |
| Sat | 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | 19:30          | STBB Christmas Concert (see <a href="#">page 37</a> )                  |
| Sun | 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | 10:30<br>17:00 | Morning Worship - Sheilagh speaking<br>Light up a Life Service at SURC |
| Fri | 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 11:00          | Carols at Tile House                                                   |
| Sat | 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 11:00          | Music & outreach at Sandown Fun Day                                    |
| Wed | 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 19:00          | Carols at Beatrice Court                                               |
| Fri | 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 11:00          | Carols at Springfield Nursing Home                                     |
| Sat | 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec | 15:30          | Messy Church                                                           |
| Sun | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec | 10:30          | Carol and Nativity Service for all ages                                |
| Tue | 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 23:00<br>23:30 | Carols on the Steps<br>Christmas Communion                             |
| Wed | 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 10:30          | Christmas Day Service for all ages                                     |
| Sun | 29 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 10:30          | All Age Worship - led by Malc Stevens                                  |
| Sat | 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan  | 09:00          | Breakfast, prayer & worship - details to follow                        |
| Sun | 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan | 10:30          | Encounter Café Service                                                 |
| Thu | 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan | 19:30          | Church Meeting                                                         |

**Brian will be off duty from Christmas Day lunch time  
– picking things up again on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January  
No Bible Bite on Tuesdays 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December**

# The Link - December 2024/January 2025

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  |    | 2  |    |    | 3  |    | 4  |    | 5  |    | 6  | 7  | 8  |
|    |    |    |    |    | 9  | 10 |    |    |    |    | 11 |    |    |
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 14 |    |    | 15 |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |
|    |    |    |    |    | 19 |    |    |    | 20 |    | 21 |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 22 |    |    | 23 | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 25 |    | 26 |    |    | 27 |    |    | 28 |    |    |    | 29 |    |
|    |    |    |    | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 31 |    |    |
| 32 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 33 |    | 34 |    | 35 |
|    |    | 36 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 37 |    |    |
| 38 | 39 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 40 |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    | 41 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 42 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 43 | 44 |    |    |    |
|    |    | 45 |    | 46 |    |    | 47 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 48 |    |    |
| 49 |    |    | 50 |    |    |    | 51 | 52 |    | 53 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 54 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 55 |    |    |    |
| 56 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 57 |    |

## Across

- 1 Country, capital Paris (6)
- 4 Opposite of inward (7)
- 9 Pub with accommodation (3)
- 11 Small Fiat car 1993 - 2021 (3)
- 12 Ornate wardrobe (7)
- 14 1974 song by Morris Albert (8)
- 17 SE English county (4)
- 18 Id Est *initials* (2)
- 19 C'est deux, en français (3)
- 20 When yellow ball is in sky (5)
- 23 Not Applicable *initials* (2)
- 25 Wax stick used for colouring (6)
- 28 Long, narrow container for animals to eat or drink out of (6)
- 30 Mother of Jesus (4)
- 31 Opposite of stop (2)
- 32 Not yes (2)
- 34 & (3)
- 36 Husband of 30 across (6)
- 37 Golfers use this (3)
- 38 Female sheep (3)
- 40 League of Nations successor *initials* (2)
- 41 - *Up Appearances* TV show (7)
- 42 Saint or street *abbr* (2)
- 43 Dutch cheese (5)
- 45 City where Jesus was born (9)
- 49 Athletic FC in Greater Manchester (6)
- 51 Personal pronoun 'you', en français (2)
- 53 Used in Morse code (4)
- 54 C'est nous, en français (2)
- 55 Ante Meridiem *initials* (2)
- 56 Follows Numbers in OT (11)

57 Mr Sheeran, singer (2)

## Down

- 1 A gift to baby Jesus (12)
- 2 Nut used to make marzipan (6)
- 3 Republic of Ireland (4)
- 4 Not off (2)
- 5 1997 Natalie Imbruglia song (4)
- 6 Gold, as an element (2)
- 7 Royal Navy *initials* (2)
- 8 *Little* -, Carol (6)
- 10 Indicates a maiden name (3)
- 13 1975 Telly Savalas hit (2)
- 15 A big cat (4)
- 16 Wildebeest, aka... (3)
- 18 Not out (2)
- 21 Sweet made from honey, egg whites and almonds (6)
- 22 His friends are Dick & Harry (3)
- 24 @ (2)
- 26 "*I* -, *therefore I* -" (2)
- 27 Where Jesus grew up (8)
- 29 Vanished, or has left (4)
- 33 Taken a substance (7)
- 35 Sent to a destination (10)
- 36 I, en français (2)
- 39 Not dry (3)
- 42 Town in Gloucestershire (6)
- 44 Our 2022 Christmas charity *initials* (2)
- 45 What you sleep in (3)
- 46 Make fun of (5)
- 47 Consume food (3)
- 48 Holds back water (3)
- 50 Small single-storey structure (3)
- 52 Strange object in sky *initials* (3)
- 53 24 hours (3)

# The Puzzle Pages

## Sudoku

*A numerical placement puzzle!*

To solve it you need to fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

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

**Last month's Sudoku**  
- how did you do?

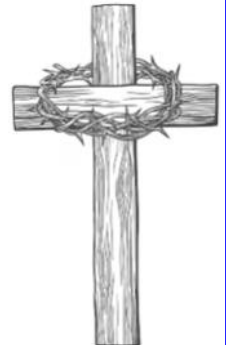
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 |
| 8 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 4 |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 6 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 9 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 7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



## Connection Quiz

### Answers

1. John Noakes
2. Electric Light Orchestra (ELO).
3. Sausage
4. Ursula Andress
5. Seine
6. Connection: The first letter of each answer spells out **JESUS**.



# The (annual) Christmas Trivia Quiz

1. Why did Mary & Joseph travel to Bethlehem?
2. Whose eyes are all aglow in '*The Christmas Song*'?
3. Which cake, traditionally eaten at Christmas, originated from a city in Scotland?
4. In which modern day country was St Nicholas born?
5. Who was crowned Emperor of the Romans on 25<sup>th</sup> December 800?
6. In what part of the world do children celebrate Christmas by beating a hollow log with a stick?
7. What cake is traditionally eaten in France at Epiphany?
8. Which English scientist was born on 25th December 1642?
9. Which celebration was '*Jingle Bells*' originally written for?
10. Some children in Italy wait not for a visit from Santa Claus, but from Befana. Who is she?
11. If Ded Moroz comes to your home for the Slavic festive season, what does he bring?
12. What is 'Happy Christmas' in German?
13. In Oaxaca, Mexico, which vegetables are carved for a competition on 23<sup>rd</sup> December?
14. In '*The 12 Days of Christmas*' how many lords a leaping are there?
15. Who wrote the song '*White Christmas*'?
16. What was the Christmas number one in 1973?
17. In Ukraine, what is used to decorate the tree alongside tinsel?
18. According to Google, when was the first recorded celebration of Christmas?
19. When was the first Christmas card sent?
20. In which country did tinsel originate?

## Can You Guess The Year?

- Actor Peter Ustinov passed away
- 30 St Mary Axe ('The Gherkin') in the City of London is opened.
- Arsenal won the Premier League undefeated.
- And UK No. 1s included:
  - Michelle with 'All This Time'
  - Usher with 'Yeah'
  - Streets with 'Dry Your Eyes'
  - Band Aid 20 with 'Do They Know It's Christmas'

*Answer next issue*

## This Issue's 'Pot Luck' Quiz Questions

1. Which team won the F1 Constructors Championship in 2000?
2. In what year was the Battle of Agincourt?
3. What is the capital of Albania?
4. What did the Romans call the IoW?
5. Who succeeded Henry IV to the English throne?
6. What is the name of the largest Channel Island?
7. When was the film 'Local Hero' released in the UK?
8. Who wrote the book 'A Good Year'?
9. When was the first postage stamp issued?
10. Which English brewery makes the beer *Spitfire*?

*Answers next issue*

Please note that the **deadline** for contributions for the next magazine is:

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

Contributions can be emailed at anytime up to the deadline day to the editor at:

[surc.thelink@btinternet.com](mailto:surc.thelink@btinternet.com)

## Last Issue's Solutions

- Guess the year: it was **1994**

- Last month's crossword ↓

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | G | U | E | T | T | E | S |   | I | F |   | E |   |   |
| U |   | O |   | A |   | O |   | O | B | E | L | I | X |   |   |
| R | E | D | A | R | R | O | W | S |   |   | A |   | I |   |   |
| G |   |   |   |   | E | T |   |   | B |   | N |   | L |   |   |
| U | G | A | N | D | A |   |   |   | B | U | D | G | I | E |   |
| N |   | D |   | O |   |   |   | A | E | T |   | E |   |   |   |
| D | E | A | U | V | I | L | L | E |   | L |   |   | M | A |   |
| Y | E |   |   | E |   |   |   |   | T | O | A | D |   | T |   |
|   | Y |   |   | O | R | C | H | A | R | D |   |   |   | T |   |
| Y | O | R | K |   |   |   | A | D | O |   |   | G | O | A | L |
|   | R |   |   |   | N |   |   | R |   | O | D | E |   |   | E |
| T | E | S | T | A | M | E | N | T |   |   | T | I | M | E |   |

## Last Issue's 'Pot Luck' Quiz Answers

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Alain Prost                 | on a healthy planet         |
| 2. Ban Ki-moon                 | 7. 8 <sup>th</sup> May 1984 |
| 3. Chişinău                    | 8. Peter Mayle              |
| 4. Elizabeth I                 | 9. Moscovium                |
| 5. Lira                        | 10. Robert Walpole          |
| 6. Peace, dignity and equality |                             |

## Sunday Service

- Morning**      **10:30 Morning Worship** in church  
*Broadcast live on YouTube*
- **Holy Communion** on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month
  - **All Age service** on last Sunday of each month

## Weekday Activities

- Monday**      15:00      **Prayer for Israel** (see [page 4](#))
- Tuesday**      14:00      **Bible Bite** ministry in church  
- refreshments and fellowship from 13:30  
*Broadcast live on YouTube*
- 19:30      **Prayer Meeting** on Zoom
- Wednesday** 11:00      **The Well, aka Living Well Together**
- Friday**      10:00      **CatURpillars Toddler Group** (*term time only*)

Details of any other services/activities that we hold will be posted:

- **inside the church**
- **on our Facebook page**
- **and on our website**

**Minister: Rev Brian Harley**



10 Dracaena Gardens, Shanklin PO37 7JQ



01983 862485



[brianharley58@gmail.com](mailto:brianharley58@gmail.com)

*Day off: Monday*

**Secretary: Robin Wightman**



[robinwightman@aol.com](mailto:robinwightman@aol.com)

**Shanklin URC is a member of the Evangelical Alliance**

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

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