

Hope



MAGAZINE

WINTER 2021

PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

MICHAEL FARADAY - AN ELECTRIC STORY

The Royal Institution's Christmas Lectures on scientific experiments have been famous for 196 years! They were started by Michael Faraday in 1825, at a time when organised education for young people was scarce.

Faraday-Millikan-Gale-1913 wikimedia



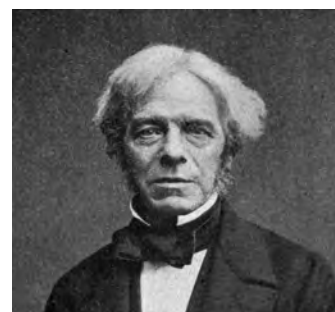
*But who was Michael Faraday?
He was one of the most influential
scientists in history.*

The most striking of Faraday's discoveries was made in 1831 when he discovered the phenomenon of electromagnetic induction. He created the first electric motor, and the first dynamo, producing electricity without a battery. Modern power generation is based on the work he did.

Faraday also discovered what we call the 'Faraday Cage' and found the first experimental evidence that electromagnetism influenced light - the Faraday Effect. He discovered how gas could be liquefied and then evaporated to cool its surroundings - the basis of how modern refrigerators and freezers work.

Michael Faraday, scientific genius as he became, had a limited education. His father was a village blacksmith who moved to London looking for employment. The family at one time had to live on Poor Relief. They attended a small independent church in the city.

After working as a newspaper and book delivery boy, Faraday was apprenticed as a bookbinder. This gave him the opportunity to read books such as Encyclopaedia Britannica, and while rebinding a worn E to F section he absorbed the article on electricity.



Faraday-Millikan-Gale-1913 wikimedia

Michael Faraday, 1791 - 1867

.....continued on page 6.



All are welcome to our

Traditional Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 19th December 10.30-11.30am

Lakerview Village Hall, Wixams SEE BACK PAGE

Who are we? We are a Bible believing, evangelical church. We hold a church service every Sunday morning where we seek to explain God's word, the Bible, in a careful, warm and relevant way, and give the Bible's answers to contemporary questions of life.



We meet every Sunday in Lakeview Village Hall from 10.30 to 11.30am. Please contact us for information about our services (word@wixams.org.uk).



We also run Wixams Sunday Club, Ignite @12 and Bible studies during the week.



www.christthewordwixams.org.uk and
www.facebook.com/christthewordwixams



We meet on Thursday evenings to look together at what the Bible has to teach us.

My story....

I had a great time as a child. I would go out to play 'commandos' in the woods and fields and then turn up at home at the end of the day when hungry. It was almost like the Famous Five, except we never found any treasure!

My parents weren't wealthy. Dad worked as a farm labourer in Elstow, and when he was off-work with a lung disease caused by rotting grain, we were poor. But one thing they did believe in was the God of the Bible; they taught us the Bible from an early age, and they lived it.

The reality of other Christians I met really struck me: they were not ashamed and being a Christian was central to their life. They spoke about knowing Jesus Christ personally and they were joyful. Aged 15 I listened to a speaker who invited people to put their trust in Jesus Christ, not secretly, but openly. Turning

from my pride, I did just that, praying and asking Jesus Christ to be my Sin-bearer, Saviour and my Lord.

The Bible became a new book. While at Bedford College I started a Christian Union and despite my fears about other people, I shared the truth about Jesus' death and resurrection. There was plenty of evidence to discuss! I found that the personal God could be known, the claims of Jesus were historically true and that it made sense in every area of life.

After spending a year on an Israeli kibbutz, I studied Politics & Philosophy in Cardiff. I became thrilled with the fact that the Bible was intellectually completely true, cover to cover. I still am.

Alan



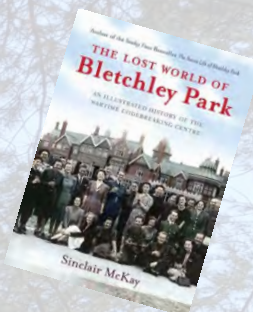
Places to go...

Bletchley Park

Bletchley Park, was the top-secret home of the World War Two Codebreakers. It was the birthplace of modern computing. It is now a museum and vibrant heritage attraction. Discover the incredible achievements of Britain's World War Two Codebreakers, in the place where it happened.



Audio guides are available. Most of the exhibits are in historic buildings, surrounded by a beautiful park. Café. Open all year, apart from Christmas weekend. www.bletchleypark.org.uk Milton Keynes MK3 6EB Less than 30 minutes by car.



MILLENNIUM COUNTRY PARK

Millennium Country Park has woodlands, grasslands, meadows and a Wetlands Nature Reserve. The Park is always open, with walks around the perimeter of the lakes. But the main gate is



locked when the Forest Centre is not open. There is some out-of-hours parking at different entry points around the Park – see online map. The Forest Centre is an inspiring architectural design. The café has plenty of space inside and out. Small children's play area. Bike hire. Centre is open 9-4/5pm. www.marstonvale.org > Forest Centre MK43 0PR and Millennium Country Park. Less than 15 minutes by car.



www.marstonvale.org/Pages/FAQs/Category/about-the-millennium-country-park

HAS THE BIBLE CHANGED OVER THE YEARS?

...The Isaiah Scroll

It is sometimes claimed that the Bible has changed and evolved over 2,000 years. Therefore we cannot know what it originally said.

The Isaiah Scroll is just one piece of evidence, among many, that refutes that view. It was discovered in Qumran, Israel, in the 1940s, among other 'Dead Sea Scrolls'. They represent one of the greatest archaeological discoveries in modern times.

The great Isaiah Scroll is one of the best preserved of the Biblical texts, and the oldest complete copy of the Bible's Book of Isaiah. It is dated at 100BC, and 1,000 years older than the oldest Hebrew (Masoretic)

- manuscripts known before the scrolls' discovery. The scroll is now housed in Jerusalem at the Shrine of the Book at the Israel Museum.

- The text of Isaiah was essentially unchanged for 1,000 years from the earliest previous copy, proving the reliability of the Masoretic text.



Isaiah image Website of The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

The dog who stole Christmas

By Roger Carswell

It was Christmas morning. A family set off to go to church. They loved singing the carols and hearing the Christmas story again.

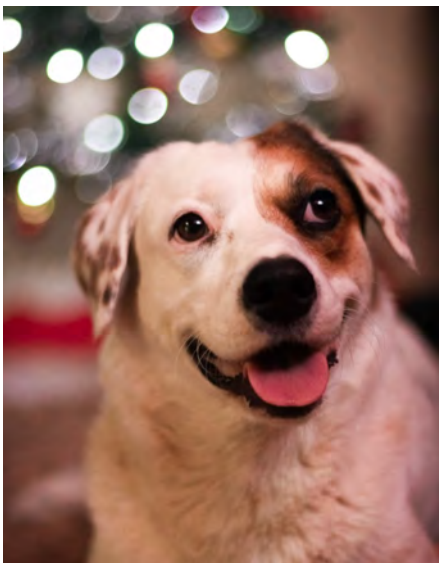


On returning, to their horror, they saw their dog sitting on the drive, licking its lips. At its feet were the remains of a huge turkey. Christmas had become a dog's dinner! Furious and upset that their meal had been devoured they wondered what to do.

Then one of the children asked how the dog managed to open the oven to get the turkey. They quickly ran inside to find the answer. Surprised, they discovered the oven door closed and their turkey still inside.

To their dismay, they realised that their dog had stolen and eaten a neighbour's turkey. They didn't dare take the dog for a walk for several weeks!

Most of us love Christmas, but the pressure to prepare for it can easily rob us of and devour the main reason for our celebration.



So how about taking a few moments now to be reminded of things that really did happen twenty centuries ago?

God came into the world he had made, to bring people back into a friendship with him.

We read in the Bible that *'The Word was God ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.'* Jesus was *'in the form of God ... but made himself of no reputation ... coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.'*



Long before Jesus was born, the prophet Isaiah said, *"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call his*

name Immanuel" which is translated, "God with us."

Centuries later, an angel of the Lord announced to Joseph that his fiancé Mary will bring forth a Son, and *"you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."*

After his birth the angels filled the sky saying to shepherds who were guarding their sheep in the fields, *"Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."* They hurried to Bethlehem and worshipped Jesus.

The Bible tells us why Jesus came to earth: *'For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and the living.'*

Wise men came from the East to worship Jesus and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Myrrh

seems a strange gift, for it was used to anoint a dead body!



But Jesus was born to die, and by his death and resurrection, he paid the penalty for the sins of which we are guilty. As the Bible puts it, *'God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'*

'All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.'

Don't let the real meaning of Christmas be stolen from you. What God wants of us is to do what the shepherds and wise men did. In our hearts and minds, we can come to the living Jesus and trust him. Ask

Jesus to become your Lord, Saviour and Friend. Start to follow him. You will find that whatever difficulties life might throw at you, you can know God now and throughout eternity!

Now, that is too good an offer to allow anything, or anyone, to take from us!

By kind permission



For further information tune in on Saturdays evenings live at 8pm to hear interviews with those whose lives have been changed by Jesus.



Crafty Corner

Christmas Wood Slice Decoration

You will need: Scissors, PVA Glue, Paintbrush, Ribbon, Wood Slice, Patterned Serviette

Instructions:

1. Drill a small hole in the top of your wood slice.
2. Choose a serviette and the part of it you wish to use on your wood slice.
3. Using scissors carefully cut around the design and check how it fits onto your wood slice.
4. Take your serviette design and carefully peel away the other layers of serviette so that you are left with just the one layer with the design on.
5. Spread a thin layer of pva glue using the paint brush onto one side of the wood slice .
6. Place your cut out serviette design carefully onto the wood slice (hole at the top).
7. Using the paint brush gently spread a thin layer of pva glue over the top of the wood slice and serviette design on top of it. Carefully rub any creases out of the serviette with the paint brush or your finger.
8. Let the glue dry, then thread the ribbon through the hole and tie a knot.
9. Your decoration is now ready to hang!



*You are welcome to join
our Church service*

We meet in LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL

every Sunday 10.30am - 11.30am



word@wixams.org.uk

(Alan or Chris) or 07879 716958

Facebook: Christ the Word Wixams

www.christthewordwixams.org.uk

Continued from page 1 **MICHAEL FARADAY — AN ELECTRIC STORY**

Young Faraday was taken by a customer to hear Sir Humphry Davy (inventor of the Davy lamp) give scientific lectures. This led to him getting a job as a laboratory assistant at the Royal Institution. He travelled with Sir Humphry on a scientific tour of Europe and met many pioneer scientists. It was a huge help to his own scientific education and by the time he was thirty he had made many important discoveries.

Although Faraday was working with a brilliant scientist and lecturer he came to see that science itself could not change ill-temper, conceit, unkindness and create a person of character. At the age of thirty Faraday openly testified to his faith in Jesus Christ and joined the independent church. He was always careful to 'Thank God, first, for all his gifts'.

He came to see that science itself could not change ill-temper, conceit, unkindness and create a person of character.

Faraday lectured regularly at the Royal Institution for 36 years, and was famous for his Christmas lectures. He became Director and Professor of Chemistry, was elected a

member of the Royal Society and honoured with a doctorate by Oxford University. He declined a knighthood and he turned down lucrative private consultations in order to devote himself to research.

He was always careful to 'Thank God, first, for all his gifts'.

Like most founding members of the Royal Society, and pioneer scientists such as Newton and Maxwell, Faraday was a firm believer in the Bible. He believed that the laws of science are evidence of the existence of God and that the discovery of these laws is a task that has been given by God in order to bring humankind to a greater understanding of the majesty of his design.



Michael Faraday featured on the £20 note, 1991—2001

The promise of the ages

The Bible is a collection of 66 books by over 40 authors written over more than 2,000 years. Yet it is God's Word and one of the things that demonstrates that is its prophecies about the coming of Jesus Christ.

At the very beginning, when man separated himself from God through disobedience, God promised to send a Messiah (a deliverer) who would bruise Satan's head in order to restore the relationship between God and man¹.

Around 1,900 years before Christ^a, God chose Abraham to be his servant and told him that, through one of his descendants, all the nations of the earth would be blessed². The promise was repeated to Abraham's son Isaac³ and to Jacob his grandson⁴. Jacob had twelve sons, but it was from Judah that God promised the kingly line would come⁵.

David, from the tribe of Judah, was appointed king over Israel about 1,000 BC. God revealed that from his line would come a king whose throne would be established forever⁶. God continued to expand on his promise through the prophets: Isaiah (c. 800 BC) foretold that he would be born of a virgin⁷ and Micah (c. 720 BC) showed that he would be born at Bethlehem⁸.

All of these prophecies, and many more, were fulfilled just over 2,000 years ago when, Mary, a virgin from the tribe of Judah and the house of David, conceived through the Holy Spirit and produced a son⁹. Angels

announced the news of his birth to shepherds saying, *"Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord"*¹⁰. Later, wise men came from the east to find and worship the one who was born king of the Jews¹¹.

Wonderful though his birth was, the prophets revealed much more than this. Centuries before his incarnation^b, Isaiah revealed clearly that the Messiah would come to die for sins. He says, *"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrow He was pierced for our transgressions"*^c. The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all¹². Christmas is a celebration of the Birth of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, God's gift to mankind in fulfilment of His promise. But, as we think about the baby lying in a manger, let's not forget that he came to die for us, so that we could be forgiven and reconciled to a Holy God.

Not only did Jesus die, he rose from the dead and was seen by many before returning to heaven. As he ascended from the earth God gave another promise: *"This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven"*¹³. Jesus is coming again - will the world be ready the second time he comes?

Notes: a) Christ is the Greek word for Messiah, the Hebrew word used in the Old Testament. b) Incarnation is the word used to describe the fact that the Son of God took on human flesh. c) Transgressions and iniquities are other words for sin (our disobedience to God). References: 1) Genesis 3.15; 2) Gen. 22.18; 3) Gen. 26.4; 4) Gen. 28.14; 5) Gen. 49.10; 6) 2 Samuel 7.16; 7) Isaiah 7.14; 8) Micah 5.2; 9) Luke 1.31-33; 10) Luke 2.11; 11) Matthew 2.1-2; 12) Isaiah 53.4-6; 13) Acts 1.11

Cut out and keep

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3 v 16





All are welcome to our
Traditional Christmas Carol Service
Sunday 19th December 10.30-11.30am
in Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams

Followed by mince pies, tea and coffee.

www.christthewordwixams.org.uk



*Christ the Word Church
Wixams wishes you and
your family a happy and
blessed Christmas.*

Tasty Treats.....Nut Roast

Why not try this delicious nut roast as a tasty alternative this Christmas? It freezes well, so can be made in advance and heated up when you need it.

Be aware, though, that it takes much longer to prepare the vegetables than the 10 minutes stated in the recipe, so allow extra time for all that chopping up!

Find the recipe on the internet at :
abundantenergy.ca/mary-berrys-nut-roast-recipe

