

Hope

MAGAZINE

Winter 2022

The Christmas messages of Queen Elizabeth II

In looking back at the life of Queen Elizabeth II, two things stand out – the Queen's constant sense of duty and her devotion to God. Of this she speaks humbly but openly, especially in her Christmas broadcasts.



2021 Christmas speech

HOPE

In the Queen's Christmas broadcast of 2011 she said:

For many this Christmas will not be easy ... As we all know the world is going through difficult times ...

Finding hope in adversity is one of the themes of Christmas. Jesus was born into a world full of fear. The angels came to frightened shepherds with hope in their voices: 'Fear not', they urged, 'we bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour who is Christ the Lord.'

FORGIVENESS

Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving

from ourselves – from our recklessness or our greed. God sent into the world a unique person – neither a philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour, with the power to forgive.



Joel Rousey Ministry of Defence/Denver/haqualedesign, OGL 3

Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God's love.

*In the last verse of this beautiful carol, O Little Town of Bethlehem, there's a prayer:
O Holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin, And enter in
Be born in us today*

.....Continues on page 3.



All are welcome to our
Traditional Christmas Carol Service
Sunday 18th December 10.30-11.30am
Lakerview Village Hall, Wixams SEE BACK PAGE

WHO?

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.

WHEN?

We meet every Sunday in Lakeview Village Hall from 10.30 to 11.30am. We are friendly and enjoy a cuppa, cake and a chat after church together.



MORE INFO?

Please contact us for information about our services
word@wixams.org.uk or 07879 716958
 Facebook: Christ the Word Wixams
www.christthewordwixams.org.uk



OTHER EVENTS

We also run Wixams Sunday Club, Ignite, Ladies Bible Study, Midweek Bible studies, Sunday Evening meeting in a home and an Easter Holiday Bible club.

Look up our website using the QR code.



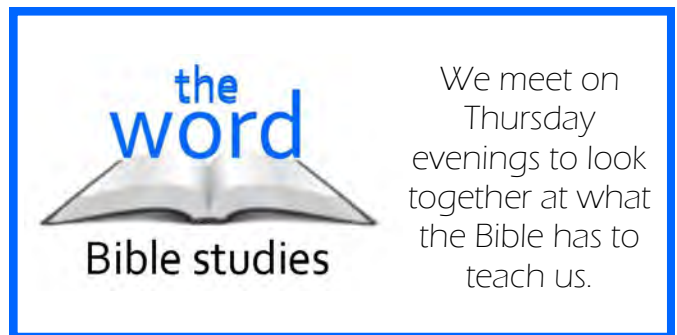

IGNITE
 A friendly group for those in year 6 and above where we have fun, games, food and explore the Bible together.
 EVERY TUESDAY (TERM TIME)
 6.30 - 7.30pm @
 LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL
 Contact Chris & Becca 07808079383
www.christthewordwixams.org.uk
 Activities: Games, Questions, Food, Quizzes, Exploring the Bible



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



Wixams Sunday Club
 for children aged 4-10yrs
 3pm to 4pm
 every Sunday term time
 Lakeview Village Hall



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

TASTY TREATS

Gluten Free Chocolate Yule Log

INGREDIENTS

Margarine for greasing
Castor sugar 150g
Cocoa powder 50g
Eggs 6 separated
Plain chocolate 200g
Icing sugar 200g
Butter 200g (room temp)
Camp coffee 2tbs

METHOD

- 1) Preheat oven to GM 4 / 180°C.
- 2) Line Swiss roll tin with baking paper and lightly grease.
- 3) Put the egg yolks and sugar in a large bowl and whisk until thick and creamy.
- 4) Add and whisk in Cocoa powder thoroughly.
- 5) Use a separate bowl to whisk the egg whites until stiff.

- 6) Fold into the rest of the mixture.
- 7) Pour mixture into tin, spread evenly and bake for 20-25mins or until well risen and beginning to shrink from sides of tin.
- 8) Remove from tin, loosen edges and stand for a few minutes.
- 9) Turn cake out onto baking parchment and leave to cool.

MAKE ICING

- 1) Melt chocolate (200g) over a pan of simmering water. Leave to cool but not set.
- 2) Put 200g icing sugar in a food processor, add butter until smooth.
- 3) Add 2tbs camp coffee and 2tbs of melted chocolate and blend until smooth.
- 4) Take half of the icing out of the food processor and put in a separate bowl for the filling.

- 6) When cake is cool, trim the edges and spread the filling onto the cake.
- 6) Add the remaining chocolate to the icing in the food processor and blend until smooth.
- 7) Roll up cake fairly tight and spread icing over cake. Drag a knife through to make it look like tree bark.
- 8) Chill for 30 minutes and decorate with icing sugar.

Recipe and Text and example for photo provided by Shaun Pibworth



Continued from Page 1 ~ The Christmas messages of Queen Elizabeth II

It is my prayer that on this Christmas day we might all find room in our lives for the message of the angels and for the love of God through Christ our Lord.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

"I know just how much I rely on my own faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning, I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God. Like others of you who draw inspiration from your own faith, I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel." (Christmas message, 2002)

'For me the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life.'
(Christmas message, 2000)

*"I have been – and remain – very grateful to you for your prayers and to God for his steadfast love. I have indeed seen his faithfulness."
(Forward for The Servant Queen).*



2019 Christmas speech



The 2011 Christmas Broadcast of Queen Elizabeth II can be found at tinyurl.com/yx6j582z

I. William Shawcross, Royal biographer

PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

LORD SHAFTESBURY

Few people have done more for the poor and destitute in the United Kingdom than Ashley Cooper – later known as Lord Shaftesbury – “The poor Man’s Earl”.

The famous Eros fountain in Piccadilly Circus, London, is the memorial to Lord Shaftesbury – actually Anteros the god of selfless love – because he protected children in the factories, mines, chimneys and slums.



Diego Debo, wikipedia CC BY-SA 4.0

Ashley was born into an aristocratic family in 1801 and grew up without any experience of parental love. However, the family housekeeper Maria Millis showed affection and practical Christian love, which would form the basis for much of his later social activism and philanthropic work. Maria’s gold watch, which he received after her death, became his most treasured possession.

Ashley became a Member of Parliament and soon set to work to reform the Lunatic Asylums which were dark and dismal places.

Many women and children worked underground in coal mines. Children as young as five were pulling carts through narrow passages, often only 60cm high. Children worked over twelve hours a day, six days a week, and sometimes were kept underground night and day. Ashley personally visited a mine, deep underground, to check the facts. He then fought to outlaw the abuse.



Children's Employment Commission (Mines) 1842 report

A FRIEND TO THE POOR

From 1833, Ashley campaigned to limit the hours that children could work in the cotton and woollen factories to ten hours a day.

Children worked over twelve hours a day, six days a week, and sometimes were kept underground night and day.



Anonymous graphic from book by Stanislaw Jachowicz (1796-1857)

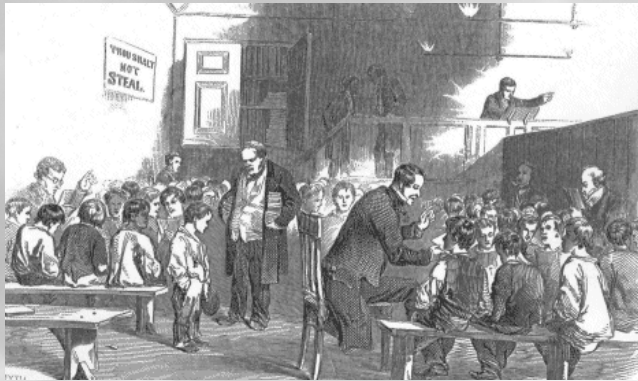
Many young boys were sold by their parents to chimney sweeps and forced to climb up the inside of chimneys to clean them. Climbing naked through the narrowest chimneys, often the boss would use salt brine to harden the boy’s skin. Their eyes and throats became filled with soot, and they frequently contracted cancer. Sometimes climbing boys would become lost in the darkness and maze of chimneys and occasionally their corpse had to be recovered by removing the chimney bricks. Shaftesbury fought in Parliament to stop the awful business and pass the Chimney Sweeps Act 1875.

William Wyer, a master chimney-sweep, was sentenced, on Monday, at Cambridge, to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for having caused the death of George Brewster, aged about twelve years, by sending him up a flue, which measured about twelve inches by seven.

Illustrated London News, March 27 1875

By the 1840s 2 million people lived in London. But without compulsory schooling only a fraction of this population had received any formal education. The children living in the slums could not afford to pay for school, were dressed in rags and rarely had shoes.

The Ragged School movement was started by Christian volunteers to provide free education, food, and lodging to homeless children and help with employment. Ashley was one of the main supporters of the ragged schools and was a regular visitor to both slums and schools to encourage the volunteer workers.

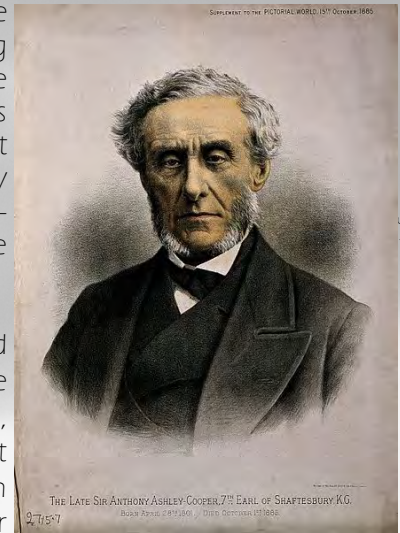


Illustrated London News March 27 1875

The children living in the slums could not afford to pay for school, were dressed in rags and rarely had shoes.

Asked by several Prime Ministers to join their cabinet, Ashley turned them all down so he could concentrate on the work of protecting children. From the time he first put his faith in Jesus Christ he was guided by the Bible and motivated by his love for his Saviour.

Ashley, or Lord Shaftesbury as he was latter known, died in 1885. At his funeral in Westminster



Welcome Images, Welcome Trust CC-BY 4.0

Abbey the streets were thronged with poor people, fruit and vegetable sellers, flower-girls, boot-blacks, crossing-sweepers, factory-hands and similar workers who waited for hours to see Shaftesbury's coffin as it passed by – to show their love to their departed friend.

Why not visit the Ragged School Museum in the East End of London? www.raggedschoolmuseum.org.uk



Out and about

A WALK IN THE PARK AT WOBURN ABBEY



An ideal walk for the Christmas holidays! Appreciate the majesty of Woburn Abbey, the beautiful scenic landscaped park and the many deer that roam free. Woburn Abbey is the home of the Duke of Bedford – the Russell family. See www.woburnabbey.co.uk

Central Bedfordshire have an excellent leaflet 'Circular walks Woburn – Eversholt Walk' that includes an OS map with the permitted footpaths and circular walk clearly marked. The circular walk is 8.3 miles/13.4km (time: 3 hours), but it is quite possible to walk part of the route and then turn back - along the Greensand Ridge Walk that runs on the north side of the Abbey, or South East towards a park exit gate near Paris House. The Circular walks leaflet pdf can be found at tinyurl.com/4evhrbtd Please note: it is important to keep to the Rights of Way footpaths. Please do not wander off into the park. Park Rangers patrol the park. It is advisable to wear boots as footpaths can be muddy.

Woburn village on the B5704 has a big free car park in Park Street, opposite St. Mary's Church MK17 9PG. Note on a weekend/holiday it may be full by mid-day. Woburn village has a number of places to eat/drink, but it may be best to check/reserve in advance. Additional walks can be found at Aspley Heath and eating at Woburn Sands.





REAL LIVES TRANSFORMED BY JESUS

REAL LIVES - Saturdays @ 8pm and on YouTube

Watch interviews with people in the UK whose lives have been changed by Jesus. Go to the YouTube channel or watch new interviews on Saturday evenings live at 8pm.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/RealLivesSaturdaysatEight/featured>
<https://reallives.net/>



reallives.net

"Some of my team mates on the pitch around me thought I was dying"




Scottish International
Rugby player Euan Murray

Real Lives

The Pilot




with Rebecca Ots

reallives.net






Abused.
Broken.
Rebellious.
Fostered.
Sectioned.
Criminal.

"I opened a Bible and the words 'the truth will set you free' stared at me"

reallives.net

Mike was a journalist by day, musician by night, and an alcoholic. His life was out of control until someone came to work alongside him at the newspaper.

Real Lives




Mehlika's story

Meet the Professor who makes our bikes go faster!




reallives.net

Cut out and keep Bible verse



MY LIFE CHANGING STORY ~ DAVID

I became a Christian 48 years ago in my first term at university, studying philosophy. My knowledge of Christianity when I started university was sketchy and largely inaccurate. I did not have Christian upbringing and had no interest in Christianity at that point in my life. I was very interested though in living the student life to the full and generally having a good time. So, what changed?

The room next to mine in the university hall of residence was occupied by another first-year student and we very soon became friends. At a very early stage of our friendship he told me that he was a Christian. He was not arrogant or proud but rather very open and keen to talk with me about Jesus Christ.

He was very clear that being a Christian was not about a system of religious belief, but rather about a relationship with Jesus whom he claimed was God. Jesus had come into the world as a man to live a morally perfect life and then to die a truly horrible death. He did this to make possible forgiveness and reconciliation with God for all the wrong things I had ever done, spoken or even thought!

My initial response to hearing this was one of scepticism. I thought my friend was a bit weird, but my curiosity had been aroused. When I soon discovered there were several others in the hall of residence that believed the same things as him, I realised that perhaps he wasn't weird at all and maybe there was some truth in what he was telling me.

During the course of the following weeks, I started attending church on a Sunday evening with my friend. Although I had begun to understand what being a Christian was really about, I didn't feel it was really for me.

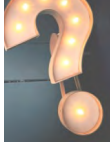
After one service when we had returned to our accommodation, we had a long conversation at the end of which my friend asked if he could pray with me. I was a bit taken aback but not wishing to offend him I agreed to his request. After that, as it was late, I went to my room and to bed – I didn't think or feel any differently.

The following morning there was a knock on my door. There was a young man who asked if we could have a chat. He said he was a believer in Hare Krishna. I had some spare time so agreed.

After a few minutes he asked me if I was a Christian. To my own surprise I said I was! When he left I shared with my friend our conversation. I really had put my trust in Jesus Christ as my Sin-bearer and Saviour. In any event my life was changed for ever.

Being a Christian has not shielded me from difficult times in my life. The Bible makes very clear that Christians can expect to have problems and hardships in their lives. The important thing is that Jesus promises to never leave us and this I can confirm has been true for me.. *David*





COMPETITION TIME

PHOTOGRAPH YOUR ENTRY AND EMAIL TO word@wixams.org.uk FIRST THREE CORRECT ENTRIES DRAWN OUT OF A HAT ON MONDAY 19th DECEMBER WILL RECEIVE A BOX OF NESTLE DAIRY BOX CHOCOLATES!

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- CHRIST
- EAST
- GABRIEL
- GOD
- GOLD
- HEROD
- JESUS
- JOY
- MARY
- MIGHTY
- MYRRH
- PEACE
- PRAISE
- PRINCE
- SAVIOUR
- SHEPHERD
- SON
- STAR
- VIRGIN
- WONDERFUL
- WORD
- WORSHIP



All are welcome to our

Traditional Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 18th December 10.30-11.30am

in Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams

Followed by mince pies, tea and coffee.

www.christthewordwixams.org.uk

