

ANGEL LULLABY

By Stuart Mitchell

I gazed across the fields today,
Where all the dead and dying lay.
A gentle harp sounded on high,
As an Angel played a lullaby.

A tune of sweet and blessed air,
A song for all the world to share.
A melody of pure perfection,
An aid perhaps to resurrection,

Of bodies now immune to pain,
Their wound washed clean by soft
sweet rain.
Creating pools of deepest red,
In the cold still valley of the dead.

And on and on the Angel plays,
Calming notes for far off days.
For coming generations who may
blossom in the sun,
That once shone upon the backs of
those who fought with sword and
gun.

The Angel harp at last grows still as
he surveys the years ahead,
In his heart he hopes that man
though sadly only through the dead,
Will look and learn from this dark
scene,
Then turn the valley back to green,

The way it was in times gone by,

Stuart wrote this poem in response to events in Kosovo, Northern Ireland, Sudan and other areas facing times of war.



The Millennium Resolution

Let there be respect for the earth,

peace for its people,

love in our lives,

delight in the good,

forgiveness for past wrongs,

and from now on,

a new start.

KIRK OUTLOOK IN 2000

Kirk Outlook is the quarterly magazine of Granton Parish Church and is available for collection by elders two Sundays before Communion in January, March, June and October for distribution to members. Anyone who hasn't received their copy by Communion Sunday can pick one up from the back of the church. As always written contributions for the magazine are welcome and I look forward to being able to include lots of news about what's happening in and around our church. Just drop me a message at 8 Fraser Crescent, give me a ring on 552 2240 or email me at Chas.Macintosh@lineone.net. Here are this year's deadlines

March issue out on Sunday 13th March – deadline Sunday 27th February

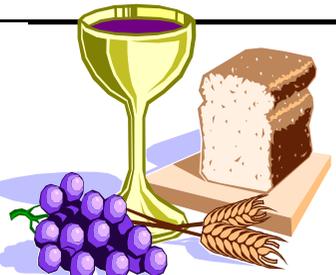
June issue out on Sunday 11th June – deadline Sunday 28th May

October issue out on Sunday 15th October – deadline Sunday 1st October

January 2001 issue out on Sunday 14th January – deadline Sunday 31st Dec

PLUS - there might even be a Christmas issue this year - look out for details in the October magazine

**THE SACRAMENT OF
HOLY COMMUNION
WILL BE CELEBRATED ON
Sunday 30th January
at 11.00am**



GRANTON PARISH CHURCH

Boswall Parkway, Edinburgh

Minister	Rev. Lynne MacMurchie	551 2159
Parish Assistant.....	Marilynn Steele.....	01875 811 497
Session Clerk.....	Lesley Webster.....	539 5033
Clerk to the Board	Jessie Macdonald	552 2200
Treasurer	Alister Greig.....	552 2427
Property Convenor.....	Chris Hansen.....	336 3048
Organist.....	Sharon Parkin.....	551 3096
Hall Convenor	Irene MacPherson.....	552 4543
Deed of Covenant Convenor.....	Stewart Greig.....	552 4427
Church Flowers.....	Ilean Greig.....	552 4427
Church phone		552 3033



MONDAYS

Playgroup	09.30-11.30	East Hall	Dinah Gillies 551 3104
Dog Training Club	19.45-22.15	East Hall	Ellen Bonthron 334 3938
Brownies	18.00-19.30	West Hall	Helen McArthur 552 5213
Drama Group	20.00-22.00	West Hall	Stuart Mitchell 552 6046

TUESDAYS

Playgroup (as Monday)			
Men's Club	14.00 & 19.00	East Hall	Chris Hansen 336 3048
Ladies Fellowship	19.30-21.30	West Hall	Audrey Mitchell 551 1613

WEDNESDAYS

Playgroup (as Monday)			
Lunch Club	12.00-14.00	West Hall	Iris McGill 551 5557
Rainbows	16.00-17.00	West Hall	Irene McPherson 552 4543
St Andrew's 1st Aid	18.00-22.00	West Hall	Anne Arnott 552 2389
Boy's Brigade	18.00-22.00	East Hall	Malcolm Burton 552 2790

THURSDAYS

Playgroup (as Monday)			
Kirsty's Coffee Morning	10.00-12.00	West Hall	Ilean Greig 552 4427
Arthritis Care (last in month)	14.00	West Hall	Shiela Wilson 467 9077
Men's Club	14.00-16.00	West Hall	Chris Hansen 336 3048
Brownies	18.00-19.30	East Hall	Gail Grey 552 5006
Guides	19.00-21.00	West Hall	Helen Peat 539 3264
Choir	19.30-21.00	Choir Room	Sharon Parkin 551 3096
Dog Training Club	19.45-21.45	East Hall	Ellen Bonthron 334 3938

FRIDAYS

Playgroup (as Monday)			
After School Club	13.30-15.30	Both Halls	Maureen Scoular 552 1464

SATURDAYS

Dance School	09.30-13.45	West Hall	Jennifer McCraw 476 9602
Egyptian Dancers	PM	East Hall	Sarannah 551 3000

SUNDAYS

Sunday School	11.00-12.00	West Hall	Linda Young 539 3852
Sunday School	11.00-12.00	East Hall	Stuart Mitchell 552 6046
Egyptian Dancers	PM	East Hall	Sarannah 551 3000

News From Pakistan

from our Missionary Partners, Ian & Isobel Murray

We want to take this opportunity to send our best wishes to all of our Partners in our supporting churches in Scotland. We will be staying here in Murree for Christmas this year.

Thank you for your support in many different ways in the past months. Pakistan again has been in the media, but generally things have been peaceful

and we pray that justice will be done. We need to pray much for this country and its leaders as well as for the Christians of this land.

As you know school has its long holiday in these winter months. Our projects will include sorting through our belongings accumulated over the last 37 plus years in preparation for leaving next summer and saying goodbyes to friends in other parts of the country.

These days here in Pakistan on our satellite, BBC and CNN bring to us much of the hype over the millennium with little mention of Jesus. We pray that we and you who claim to follow Him will celebrate as He wants us to.

God bless you all,

You Can't Phone a Friend for the answer!

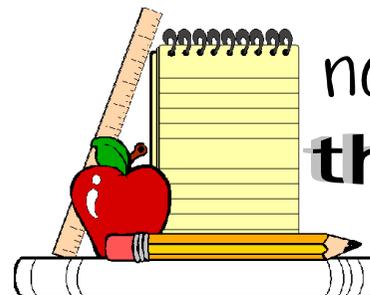


Now's the time to get your team together for the battle of wits at the church quiz night on Friday 11th February. It's sure to be a great night's entertainment with your quiz-inquisitors John & Lesley Webster. Whether you're the "Granny Mafia", "the Luvvies" or the "Cat's Chorus" - you should phone Lesley soon on 539 5033 to register your team of 4-5 quizzers.



The James Farrer Singers

Tickets will be on sale very soon for this year's church concert. On Friday March 14th we are presenting a performance by the James Farrer Singers. The group of 12 female singers have a varied repertoire including popular



notes from the minister

2000 - a new start

A New Start

When Jesus Christ was born 2000 years ago many people believed that he was a new start for the world because of the way he treated other people. By his words and his actions he stood alongside the poor and the outcast and showed that God thought that each person was special and unique.

Many people think of the year 2000 as an opportunity for a new beginning. In technological terms humankind has advanced a great deal in the last 2000 years. And in some respects there is a greater degree of acceptance and openness towards people of different cultures, traditions and lifestyles. But there are some things that it is hard to accept are still happening in the world 2000 years on.

Progress!

I was reading an article in a magazine entitled 'And we call this progress?'. The writer of the article had asked 'people who know' eg. war correspondents, reportage photographers, nurses in the field- what they would nominate as a problem they can't really believe is still happening at the dawn of the 21st century.

The problems they can't believe are still happening are hunger; war; people being hated because of their race, the colour of their skin or their sexuality; Third world debt and child poverty, and these are only some of the issues mentioned.

Children's Gifts

Many people long to make a difference and for 2000 to be a new start for the world. When I spoke to the children in the local schools about this they said that they would like to give these gifts to the world:

- My gift to the world would be some money for · homeless



(Continued from page 3)

- people because they have not got houses.
- My gift to the world would be a safe and clear and beautiful Scotland because I want it to be like that.
- My gift to the world would be a heart of loveliness and kindness protecting everyone's life and it will hurt nobody so everyone will be happy.
- My gift to the world would be that all the animals can live in peace and not get extinct.
- My gift to the world would be that there would be no more drugs and no more pollution
- My gift to the world would be to make the world ' tidy because people throw rubbish away
- My gift to the world would be that all poor people would have water and food.
- My gift to the world would be that

Thanks to all those people who sent me cards and good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. It was very much appreciated - *Lynne*

all wars would stop.

- My gift to the world would be flowers for the sad people whose husbands have died like my granny.

Behind these gifts and others not mentioned here lie the values of Christ Jesus - care and respect and love for the earth and all its people, which reminds me of the Churches' Millennium Resolution:

***Let there be respect for the earth,
peace for its people,
love in our lives,
delight in the good,
forgiveness for past wrongs,
and from now on,
a new start.***

I hope that 2000 is a new start for you personally and a new beginning for a world in need of more peace and joy.

Lynne

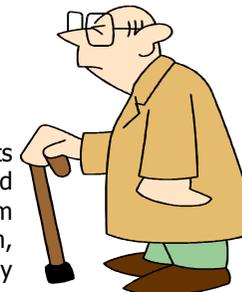


A Happy New Year to you all, I hope it brings all that you hope for in the coming year.

My first Christmas in the parish has been both enjoyable and memorable. Although Advent and Christmas was extremely busy it was worth all the effort everyone put in to it. Being part

(Continued on page 9)

The Men's Club



By *Tom Clapperton, Secretary*

The Men's Club, which meets in the East Hall three times a week, are on the lookout for a few new members to keep their carpets active and give everybody a game.

Tom Clapperton, the Club Secretary, says, "the object of the meetings is to have a good game, enjoy yourself and have a good chat with the boys - we always have a cup of tea during the meetings."

The club meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm until 4pm, and Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm and a warm welcome is assured to any men who would like to join. Tom says, "if you have a set of bowls bring them along - if not we have several sets that can be used."

At last a real reason to celebrate



Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced last month that the British Government would cancel its unilateral debt with some of the poorest countries of the world.

It came as welcome news for Jubilee 2000 as heads of development agencies and church leaders met Mr. Brown at 11 Downing Street for a breakfast briefing on debt, following the announcement that the UK would cancel debt owed to it by up to 25 of the world's 41 poorest nations during the next year.

Christmas Present

"The British Government has given the debt relief campaign a nice Christmas present," said Dr. Daleep Mukarji, Director of Christian Aid, after the meeting. "We hope that heavily indebted

countries will truly be able to celebrate the new millennium - and that depends on real results,"

Although the announcement was welcomed by aid agencies, Christian Aid warned that the decision had come too late to save the lives of many children.

Dr Mukarji drew attention to the fact that the Chancellor's announcement only affects 25 countries. There are 41 countries officially known as HIPC's (Heavily Indebted Poor Countries) and Christian Aid believes all of these countries should be extended immediate debt relief. "Every day 19,000 children die as a result of lack of debt relief," said Dr Makarji. "Every day of delay costs lives. Even with Gordon Brown's new announcement many countries could be waiting almost a year before they receive a penny," he said.

The Ladies Fellowship

by Jessie Macdonald, Secretary

The first half of our session has already gone - we have had some very entertaining and enjoyable evenings - some serious and some lighter moments.

We started the second half of the year on 11th January with Quiz Night and some of the forthcoming highlights will be the Scots Night on 25th January and some "home grown" talent on different evenings from Lisa Jack, Tom Clapperton and John Blackwood and his friends. Our Spring Fair will be on

Saturday, 9th March at 2pm - a great occasion for bargains and a get-together with friends!

Ladies, I've said it before - if you are free on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm why not come along and join us. We'd love to see you.



▶ Parish Register

BAPTISMS

November	7th	Zara Ashley Faulkner daughter of Zoe 18 Pilton Avenue
	28th	Christopher Robert Burke son of Lesley and Robert 11/5 Wardieburn Street East

FUNERALS

October	15th	Tam Mitchell, 244/1 Crewe Road North
	29th	Moira Souter, 50 Pilton Drive Jimmy Smith, 48 Pilton Avenue
November	3rd	Jenny Toshack, Eildon Nursing Home
	5th	Robert Divertie, formerly Crewe Place
	8th	Fred Walker, 21 Wardieburn Drive
	9th	Grace Dick, 16/3 Wardie Dell
	11th	Elizabeth Devlin, 28/4 Granton Crescent
	18th	Georgina Sinclair, 58 Boswall Terrace
	30th	James Malley, 11/2 Wardieburn Place West
December	1st	Margaret Gillies, 76 Pilton Park
	10th	Alexander Wood, 133/3 Crewe Road West
	20th	Margaret Scott, 23/1 Wardieburn Drive

Everyone an Angel

By Stuart Mitchell
Sunday-School Co-ordinator



At a meeting last year I had the good fortune (??) to be chosen as the Sunday-School co-ordinator as Gillian Tweedie had decided to step down in order to pursue further studies.

One of the first topics to be discussed following my appointment was Christmas and the children's role in all the services etc. It was decided by all the teachers that one of the things we wanted to do which we felt all the children would enjoy was a Nativity play, as we had not tackled such a project for many years. A suitable script was found and rehearsals started with the older children taking on the speaking roles and the younger ones providing the action.

Flurry

Throughout November and December, Sunday mornings were a flurry of activity as the children made decorations, decorated folders, listened to The Christmas Story and of course rehearsed. We also managed to fit in a very

successful Christmas party for the younger ones. Santa even managed to make an appearance and all the children were delighted with their presents. All of the aforementioned events took a great deal of organising and a great deal of thanks is owed to all of the teachers and a number of parents who helped out particularly in the costume making department.

The morning of the Nativity play was interesting to say the least as the dress rehearsal did not exactly go to plan. However, by the time our Sunday school Angels (even those not dressed as Angels managed to look Angelic) finally hit the stage, all the teething problems were instantly forgotten. The children were quite simply superb and I'm sure that there were more than a few happy tears shed by members of the congregation as they watched the performance (I can honestly say I was one of those pretending to have something in my eye!) I realise that my opinion may be construed as biased, but it would take a hard heart to find many faults and to my way of thinking, effort wins out over ability on any such occasion.

Cinema

Our final event of the year was to take the older members of the Sunday school to the cinema. Two teachers plus one volunteer helper called Lynne took on the hazardous task and have since been recommended for bravery awards having survived two bus journeys with ten noisy children and of course the film "Inspector Gadget". The film (which was not as bad as the critics made out) was enjoyed by all, as was most of the cinema's sweet shop judging by the amount of popcorn

(Continued on page 7)

from the SESSION CLERK

(just retired!)

by Audrey Mitchell, our outgoing
Session Clerk

By the time this is in print I will have handed over my duties to Lesley Webster, and I can only say to her "Lesley I sincerely hope you will find your term as Session Clerk as fulfilling and rewarding as I certainly have!"

What experiences I have had over the past four years or so! I never dreamt when I agreed to become Session Clerk just how challenging, varied and interesting the job would prove to be!

I had only just got into gear (or so I thought) when Liz Henderson decided to go off on Sabbatical Leave and then very shortly after her return announced she was leaving Granton for Richmond Craigmillar. So now here we were faced with a period of 'Vacancy'. I was privileged to be a member of the Vacancy Committee - a very hectic time for several months - on the whole an enjoyable and interesting time - and at the end of the day very rewarding when at last we were organising Lynne's arrival and Service of Ordination and Induction - a great day in Granton for all of us two years ago now.

A few weeks after this preparations were in hand for Maureen's retirement social and then dinner with the office-bearers in

the King's Manor Hotel. Eighteen months later we were looking forward to welcoming Marilyn into our midst, followed by her Commissioning Service in the Church a month after her arrival.

During my term of office four Elders were presented in church with Long Service Certificates and in recent months six new Elders were ordained. The week after that we held a Training Conference for all Elders. In November 1999 we had a Quinquennial Visit from members of Edinburgh Presbytery - so it has been a very busy and exciting four years.

I could go on and on - but these are just some of the "extras" I have been involved in. I had only expected to attend meetings and type minutes - with perhaps some correspondence needing attention now and again!!

Nevertheless I would have to admit the past four years have been a great experience in Church work which I have found very challenging and rewarding. I have also enjoyed the many opportunities that have been presented to me to serve the Church here in Granton and in the larger community.



Now as I retire from office I look forward to taking things a little easier for a bit and then who knows what may lie ahead! But I am truly thankful for all the challenges of the last four years and am glad I was given the opportunity to serve as Session Clerk.

I thank you all for your support in so many different ways which made the job easier for me and I am sure you will also give Lesley your continued support as she now begins her term as Session

11.30am. Ladies and gentlemen are cordially invited to join us. We hope that you had a very happy Christmas season.

Poetry Diaries

Many thanks to everyone who bought one of my diaries. Due entirely to your generosity and support they have all



Greetings from the "Victoria Manor"

I would like to wish everyone a Peaceful and happy Christmas and a healthy and exiting time in the special year ahead.

Many thanks for all the kind thoughts, cards and good wishes I have received. God bless you all.

Ina Hutton

Somewhat late for Seasons Greetings, but never for a big THANK-YOU.

I'd like to thank, most sincerely:-

Our weekly escorts always there, no matter the weather. Our friendly, faithful "Buddies"

Our minister, Lynne and Parish Assistant, Marilyn for their delightful services.

The Sunday School staff and pupils for their fruits model and especially their

POST-SCRIPT

Many thanks to everyone who used and helped with ScoutPost in December.

Once again around half a million cards were collected and delivered throughout Edinburgh, raising somewhere in the region of £75,000 for local charities.

very recent moving Nativity.

The choir for their recent recitals in services. It took me all my time to refrain from shouting out "Bravissimo". Would such vocal appreciation be out of place in church?

Sharon, our organist, for her musical virtuosity and dedicated work with choir, children and newly-formed Music Group which deserves special mention.

The Fellowship for friendly, genuine fellowship, the interesting meetings and delightful Christmas meal and gift. Jenny, our volunteer, wishes to express her enjoyment of the party and the services her duties have enabled her to attend.

To you, the congregation, who have a warm smile, handshake and welcoming word as we pass in and out of services.

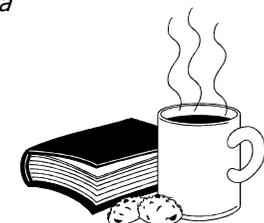
We thank you all for your warm wishes.

Last, but by no means least, for those lovely Christmas Eve services.

A Happy and Prosperous 2000 to you all.

L i z a

Jack



Lunch Club

By Evelyn Stewart

Happy New Year to all! It seems no time at all since we were wishing our 'lunchers' a merry Christmas at our Christmas Lunch. It was a very happy occasion both for the staff and customers alike. The hall had been beautifully decorated and the lights twinkled festively on the Christmas trees. A few extra helpers were on hand – Myra, Elizabeth and Maureen, and with their assistance the serving up of the meal went without a hitch. We thank them most sincerely. One innovation worth a mention was that of our wine waiter, dispensing Christmas cheer to the lunchers on arrival – none other than Bill Pollock dressed for the occasion in natty waistcoat and bow tie. Well done Bill!

A sad note, however, Iris has decided to retire and Maureen Hutchison paid her a warm tribute at the Christmas Lunch. She reminded us how Iris has initiated the Lunch Club six years ago by constantly insisting that it would be well worth while trying and kept chipping away in the appropriate direction until it was finally agreed. Iris is not deserting us – she says that she will try to help when staff shortages occur and I'm sure that her well-known rice pudding will continue to appear on our menu.

We hope that this coming year will prove

to be as successful as was 1999. We appreciate your support and trust that you will remain our satisfied customers. As always, if you know anyone who might be a bit lonely please tell them about Wednesday's from 12 noon in the West Hall.



Discussion Group

The first of a series of discussion group meetings was held at the manse earlier this month – the topic "The Church isn't what it used to be!" The next one is due to be held in late February – look out for details of the date and topic in the weekly notices.



Kristy's Coffee Morning

Eva and Ilean wish to thank everyone for their support over the past year. The weekly coffee mornings have now resumed after the Christmas break – every Thursday morning from 10.00-

from the SESSION CLERK

(just started!)

by Lesley Webster, our new Session Clerk

I would like to say a very well deserved "Thank - You" to everyone who made our advent and Christmas services so special.

Our minister Lynne who has put so much in behind the scenes as well as in church and also Marilyn our Deacon who has spent her first Christmas in Granton with us - I hope she has enjoyed it as much as we have and look forward to many more together.

The newly formed Music Group which has made such a wonderful addition to our worship - well done all and we hope to hear much more of you in the future.

Sharon and the choir with Evelyn and Alison whose voices have also enriched our worship.

The wonderful Nativity performed by our ever growing Sunday School. How wonderful to see this magnificent story

acted out by the children - I'm sure I wasn't the only person with a tear in my eye. We mustn't forget all the teachers who give so freely of their time to make this all possible for us.

The Boy's Brigade who so ably and beautifully decorated our church and halls as they do every year.

The ladies who provided all the goodies at our various services - tea, coffee, mince pies, soup and not to mention the mulled wine which worked wonders for all the coughs around - I must get the recipe !

All the adults and children who arrived on the morning of Christmas Eve to make the Christingles. Everyone I'm sure had many other things to catch up with at this busy time so I was especially cheered to see such a turnout.

As you will appreciate there are many other people "behind the scenes" who made all this possible. If I have not mentioned you by name it does not mean that you are not appreciated - give yourselves a pat on the back you deserve it !

I look forward to serving you all as Session Clerk in the coming year.

Happy New Year and Millennium

Lesley

Everyone an Angel (Continued from page 5)

etc consumed.

Well that about wraps it up to use an appropriate theatrical term, Sunday school resumed on 9th January and as usual all offers of assistance are gratefully accepted. I look forward to seeing all the children and hearing about their Christmas presents etc and hope that we may even see a few new faces. If you know of anyone of Sunday school age, please encourage them and those who look after them to come along and share in our fun.



The Brigade Bugle!

by Malcolm Burton
Captain 19th Leith Company

Normal service within the Company resumed on Friday 14th January following what now seems a very short break for the festivities (maybe going back to work makes the holidays seem a whole lot shorter than they were!). Company night reverted to a Wednesday from 19th January onwards.

Early in December the Junior section attended a carol evening hosted by the 61st Musselburgh Company. This was an excellent event, which the Boys thoroughly enjoyed and it really helped to put everyone in the Christmas spirit.

On the Wednesday prior to the Christmas week we managed to get through a whole host of games and activities that left everyone, (well maybe not the boys) completely worn out as this was the night we held our Christmas Party and Competitions. Huge amounts of food were consumed and all the Junior Section boys received presents. The Company Section boys competed against each other in Snooker, Pool, Table Tennis and Dominoes and trophies were awarded to the winners of what turned out to be some skillfully contested competitions.

Numbers have remained very encouraging with 15 juniors and 10 Company section boys though we are

always keen to have new boys come and join us. For anyone who has a boy(s) or knows of a boy(s) who may wish to join us, we meet at Junior section level (p3 – p6) on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm – 7.55pm and at Company section level (p7 – s6) from 8pm – 9.30pm (approx.).

The Battalion has a very busy and exciting programme of events for all sections lined up and we hope that we will be able to take part in as many of these as possible. One of the main obstacles to us doing so is lack of staff and/or helpers as child protection issues have to be taken in to account and this can lead to problems as we have to operate on a ratio of approximately 1 adult to 6 boys. If you can spare some time to help either with the company on a Wednesday night or on an ad-hoc basis for special activities/events please contact me on 552 5790. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated by staff and boys alike.

The first of the events mentioned in the previous paragraph takes place later in January when both sections will take part in indoor 5 a side football competitions. The boys look forward to competing against other companies and we hope to improve on recent past performances. Outdoor football will also figure and we will continue to compete at Company and Junior level.

Further information regarding the Company can be obtained from any of the Officers and more news will follow in subsequent issues of Kirk Outlook.

A “Note” from The Music Group

by Sharon Parkin

By now, most of you will have heard our new Music Group and I hope, like me, you have been impressed. All our members and helpers worked extremely hard to make a valuable contribution to the Christmas services and I'm sure you'll all agree, the effort was very worthwhile. Many of you have complimented the group and wished us success for the future.

Talking of which, we are always looking for new members. The age range at



Marilynn Writes:

(from page 4)

of God's family has its rewards, working together in fellowship particularly at Christmas is one of them. I very much enjoyed the Ladies Fellowship Christmas party, the entertainment was brilliant, also the Lunch Club Christmas Lunch was

excellent and I take my hat off to the ladies who organised the cooking and to the ladies who did the serving thank you.

We are now into a New Year and Lynne and I look forward to the challenges it will present.

We have some exciting new ventures which we very much hope you will support and you will hear about it in due course.

Take care of yourselves and God Bless.



Nativity on Video

We recorded some of the service on 19th December in which the children performed their nativity play and the music group played for us. I'm happy to provide a copy to anyone who wishes - just let me have a blank videotape or phone me on 552 2240. Don't expect BBC standards, but it does make a

