

LIFE & WORK - take a new look

- ✓ · The cover story in the January issue of Life & Work tells the story of a young Nigerian, studying in Glasgow, who owes his very existence to the remarkable Scots missionary Mary Slessor.
- ✓ · The future of the Church is likened to the future of the planet in this month's editorial: "It depends on action taken today and taken by everyone".
- ✓ · Read about plans leading up to next year's Year of the Child, an initiative from the Church of Scotland Board of Parish Education.
- ✓ · Queen Victoria had a particular liking for Scots Presbyterianism. Ian Bradley profiles the Queen's church going in Scotland and her views on the Church of England. Find out how she saved the Kirk from disestablishment.
- ✓ · While Scottish churches discuss union, a former Moderator calls for union within the Kirk, between its conservative and liberal wings.
- ✓ · Read how great works of art have become tools for the mission of the Church.
- ✓ · World church affairs, book reviews; crosswords, a money page, as well as news of the church and its activities from parishes to parliament fill the remaining pages - and all for 90p!

Order your copy from Miss Norah Stephen.

Kirk Outlook

Granton Parish Church - January 2001

in this issue of KO

Welcome to the
real new
millennium!



Burns
Supper
26th January

The origin or Comunion Cards

Granton Parish Church

Boswall Parkway Edinburgh

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 551 2159 sharon@parkin15.freemove.co.uk
 lynnemac@lineone.net

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Treasurer Charles Macintosh
Jean McIntosh 552 2240
 552 2058 chas_macintosh@yahoo.com
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Property Convener Chris Hansen
 336 3048

Organist Church phone 552 3033

L a d i e s Fellowship

by Elizabeth Jones, Secretary

How time flies. Here we are halfway through our 200/2001 session when we welcomed three new members. The talks, slide shows and demonstrations seem to have been appreciated by all. It appeared from the friendly chatter during the Christmas social that this event was a happy one.

We started again after the festive break on 9th January and are meeting as usual every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm - everyone will receive a very warm welcome.

In Brief

Evening Services

Remember that evening services are held at 6.30pm on the second Sunday of each month - all welcome. Communion is celebrated.

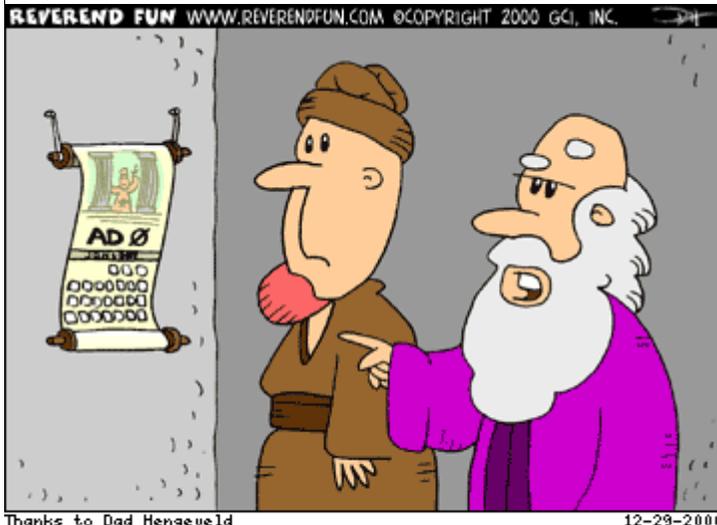
▶ Parish Register

BAPTISMS

<i>October 22nd</i>	Kirk Paul Allan infant son of Gwen and Kenneth 60 Pilton Avenue	<i>October 10th</i>	Alec Osborne 20 Grierson Crescent	<i>54/5 Royston Mains Crescent</i>
<i>December 3rd</i>	Tamsin Isabella Snaith infant daughter of Pauline and Tom 58/6 Boswall Terrace	<i>October 16th</i>	Margaret Cockburn 157 Pilton Avenue	<i>November 29th</i> Dave Beveridge 48 Fraser Avenue
<i>December 24th</i>	James George Matthew Kelly (Adult)	<i>October 23rd</i>	Mary Darrie formerly of Granton	<i>November 30th</i> Mamie Mckenzie 9/4 Boswall Parkway
	Wendy Janet Elsie Macdonald (Adult)	<i>October 25th</i>	Robert Hay 59 Granton Crescent	<i>December 14th</i> Georgina Duff 29 Royston Mains Crescent
	Caitlin Jane Macdonald infant daughter of Wendy & Willi Macdonald (Livingston)	<i>November 2nd</i>	Marilyn Stainsby 4 Crewe Crescent	<i>December 15th</i> Paul McCauley 68 Granton Crescent
			Willi Fraser 56 Boswall Terrace	<i>December 22nd</i> James King 10 Boswall Gardens
		<i>November 21st</i>	George Miller	

Kirk Outlook

Articles and information for inclusion in the next issue of Kirk Outlook should be passed to the editor, Chas Macintosh at 8 Fraser Crescent, telephoned to 552 2240, emailed to chas_macintosh@yahoo.com, or faxed to 07092 158687 by Sunday 25th February.



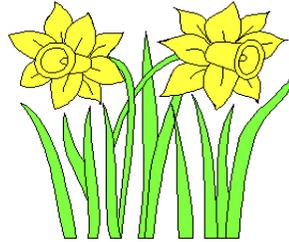
NO WAY MAN, IT IS NOT REALLY "AD" UNTIL THE YEAR 1

CHURCH FLOWERS

He'll be in to see his flowers!

As another year ends and auditing time is here, I would just like to thank everyone who has generously donated towards flowers in the sanctuary.

Recently I had to request help while shopping in Tesco. A young lad, doing a holiday job I suspect, remarked "you're the lady that aye buys loads o' floo'ers. Can I ask whit ye dae wi' them a'?" I explained they were for a church at Granton.



Forgetting about the incident the weeks passed then I saw him last week busy packing shelves. He stopped me and explained that he thought he would like to see what happened to 'his' flowers, but attended the wrong church!

So now having received a wee map, should you come across a young man on his own studying flowers, please smile and make him welcome. He's come to see his flowers and he might like us too.

A Happy New Year. Ilean Greig

coming soon to our church hall
The Farndale Avenue
Housing Estate
Townswomen's
Guild Dramatic Society's
Production of
MACBETH

RAINBOWS

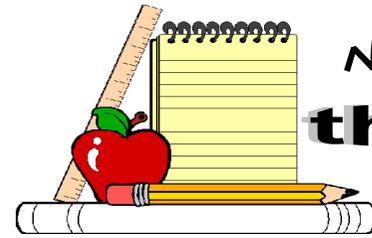
The 100th Rainbows wish everyone a happy new year.

Calling all girls between 5 and 7 years old. Come and have fun playing games, painting, making things, singing songs and just having fun.

We are in the West (small) Hall every Wednesday from 4pm - 5pm.

Younger girls can also join our waiting list.

Come and join us!!!



NOTES FROM the minister

Many thanks to all of you who sent me Christmas cards and greetings- it was very much appreciated.

There was so much hype about the year 2000 and the beginning of a new century and now the year has passed. For many it was not a good year. There seemed to be a lot of people with personal sadness and tragedy, and on a world scale the fighting and the crime continued as people struggle to find peace.

2001

I often hear people saying what a terrible world we live in. But I suspect that it is probably no more terrible than at any other time.

I have a friend who works in a shop and she was asked by a customer about Robert the Bruce and William Wallace. 'Were they of good character?!' 'Were they violent men?!' My friend confesses to knowing little about Scottish history, but she had a wry smile to herself at the questions. Chances are they were violent men - it was a way of life then.

We tend to romanticize our history forgetting how terrible was the violence and the bloodshed of those eras. We forget that we have progressed a little beyond the barbarism of earlier centuries.

Every age and era has its own terrors. The things that frighten us now may be different, but I doubt whether they are any worse. I think too that because of the media and the ease with which we can travel world-wide and communicate world-wide, we are now much more aware of these terrors than we once were.

I also believe that death and tragedy and ways of transcending or coping with them are part of what it means to be alive, to be human and to have a faith.

So now that we have truly entered into the new millennium (!) I think we should reflect on some of the **good things** that the Twentieth Century brought. The poem on the next page is extracted from a book compiled especially for children at the start of a new Century:

Please contact the minister, Rev. Lynne MacMurchie, for information about Church membership, Baptism, being married in church or for any other reason. Lynne's phone number is 551 2159



NOTES FROM the minister

continued

The Best of the 20th Century

If I could fill that millennium box full of splendid things, there are many wonderful inventions I know I'd like to bring- the sensible, the silly, the important and the trivial- things which have made life easier and often more convivial. So this is part of an inventory of things from the twentieth century. Powered flight, electric lights, Motor bikes, nylon tights, women's rights, chocolate bars, motor cars, spaceships orbiting the stars, instant coffee, dessert banoffee, mint-flavoured toffee.

Oven- ready hens, ball point pens, cures for this disease and that, treatment for sick dogs and cats, wide cinemascope, the Hubble telescope, many healing drugs, non-slip rugs, silly ugly-mugs, snug double glazing, living-gas fires blazing, home computers, internetting, desk-top printing, jet setting, adventure camps, disabled ramps, homes free of damp, bedside lamps. Windsurfing, skateboards, roller blades, sailboards, electric wheelchairs and teddy bears. These are a few of the things that should go in that box before fastening it with chains and securing it with locks! (*Poem by Janis Priestley- taken from 'Poems and Prayers for a Better World'- Lion Publishing.*)

I hope at the end of the Twenty First Century people are able to say that the truly splendid things of the Twentieth century are available for all people.

Lynne

PRAYERS FROM THE CHILDREN OF GOD

Enjoy these delightful prayers from kids--who tell it like it is! - more throughout this edition of KO.

"In Sunday school they told us what You do. Who does it when You are on holiday?" (Jane)

"I read the Bible. What does 'begat' mean? Nobody will tell me. Love, Alison."



Dear Editor - I would like to say as a member of the Drama Group how much I enjoyed the last production "The Sorcerer's Tale" which took place at the beginning of December.

This was the third time that we have put on this particular play and I remember well prompting for the 1983 production. Our grateful thanks go to Jim Lyall who agreed to come back and join us this time which means that he has appeared in all three shows - quite a feat!! Well done Jim - now that we have you back in our clutches it will be hard for you to escape!!

It was decided to ask past members who took part along to see the show and to join us for supper. All apart from one member were able to come from as far afield as Pitlochry and Broughty Ferry. Over supper after the show past members were introduced to present cast who played the

same parts and notes were compared with much hilarity!!

Old faces (some more so than others!!) meeting new - great fun. Our special thanks go to Olive Lyall and Irene McPherson (both past faces - I daren't say old!!!) for providing the wonderful supper which was very much enjoyed by all. It's great fun being a member of such a group both during rehearsals and the week of the show.

We are always looking for new members to act and to help backstage (especially building the sets) so if you would like to join our happy band either come along on a Monday night at 8p.m. or contact any member of the group for details.

Lesley Webster

What's Brewing at the Drama Group - page 10

Dear Editor - We'd like to take this opportunity to convey our thanks and Season's Greetings to the following :-To the gallant, faithful escorts who convey our chariots to and from church each Sunday.

To our faithful, friendly "Buddies" whose help throughout the services is greatly appreciated.

To the Fellowship members for their warm, welcoming friendship.

To the Congregation for making us feel "one of them".

By no means least, to our minister and deacon for their inspiring and thought provoking sermons.

Best Wishes to you all. Isla, Liza and Mary

In Brief

Borrow a Christian book

Have you had a look at the church library yet? The library is located at the back of the church and the number of books to borrow is growing all the time.

In Brief

SPRING FAIR

The Ladies Fellowship Spring Fair will be held on Saturday 10th March 2001 at 2.00pm

(Continued from page 11)

side (though even Hearts haven't managed to lose four times in the same day!!)

Activities and competitions for Junior and Company boys at Battalion level will start again shortly and we aim to field Junior and Company football teams in their respective indoor 5 a side competitions. The boys enjoy the opportunity of taking part in the varied programme of events and earlier in the session took part in the JS swimming gala and the CS badminton competition. Though we did not win either event, the boys thoroughly enjoyed taking part and this is by far the most important element in entering such events. We did manage a minor success in the Badminton, with one doubles team from the four entered, qualifying as section winners. This team were narrowly beaten in the final stages, but showed definite promise for next year.

By way of interest, the current numbers attending are 14 at Junior Section level and 12 at Company Section.

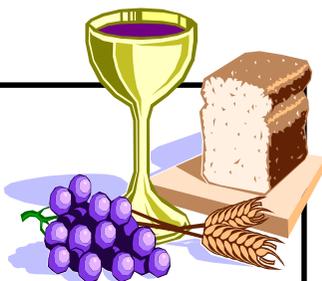
In finishing, I should like to reiterate an earlier message in extending an invitation to all members of the congregation to continue to support the Company in any way possible during the remainder of the session. In doing so you will help towards ensuring our continued presence and in assisting us in furthering our aims of providing a valuable service to the boys in our area. I can be contacted on 552 5790 if you wish to discuss ways in which you could help.

Well that's all from me for now, I will keep you up to date with all our news in future issues of Kirk Outlook.

You are invited to join in
the
SACRAMENT OF
HOLY COMMUNION

when it is celebrated on

Sunday 28th January 2001
at 11.00am



FROM OUR PARISH ASSISTANT

Faith in the New Year

In Brief

The year 2001 is with us, where did the year 2000 go? In some ways it seems like it has passed with the blink of an eye!

Achievements

Yet in the past year as a congregation we have achieved much, particularly with our commitment to the Third world through Traidcraft and Christian Aid. Our Traidcraft stall which we started at the end of September has been very successful.

We have sold almost £1000 worth of goods - a great achievement, well done to all who supported it. Our efforts will greatly benefit people of third world countries, who through Traidcraft will receive a fair price for their goods.

We will be continuing to have our Traidcraft stall on the last Sunday of each month and it is hoped you will all continue to support it.

Also, our thanks go to Jennifer Webster and her helpers for all their efforts in making it so successful, and also our thanks to the people who serve the teas and coffees on Traidcraft Sundays, the donations have helped to increase our donations to Christian Aid.

Church Library

A reminder to you all that the church library at the back of the church has a variety of books that may interest you - please feel free to borrow the books any time.

Quiet Time

The Quiet Time short services resumed again on Thursday 11th January 2001 at 9.45am, it would be good to see some new faces with us in this short time of reflection - all are welcome.

Personal Note

On a more personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support, through cards and kind messages of sympathy on the recent death of my mother. It meant a great deal to both myself and my family that others cared and thought of us, thank you.

TRAIDCRAFT
Goods are on sale after the service on the last Sunday of each month

CHURCH LIBRARY
at the back of the church

"Are you really invisible or is that just a trick?" (Lucy)

"Is it true my father won't get in Heaven if he uses his football words in the house?" (Anita)

(Continued on page 6)

In Brief

A large-print version of the 2001 Invitation Card (see opposite page) is also available from the back of the church or from your Elder.

(Continued from page 5)
It is at times like that when you realize just how important faith is, it carries you through the difficult and sad times in life, and also in the good times.

As we move forward into a new year, we move forward in that faith, because God is with us always.

I hope the year 2001 will be a good year to us all, that it will bring a stronger commitment to faith. I hope it brings joy and peace to you all.

Every Blessing and take care of yourselves

Marilynn



Session Clerk

"Did You mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident?" (Norma)

Compliments of the season to you all. I'm sure you would like

to join me in saying a huge big thank to Marilynn and Lynne for all their preparation and hard work put into making the services over the Christmas period so moving and enjoyable. Many thanks also to everyone - too numerous to mention - who took part in any way, you know who you are and your contributions are greatly appreciated.

I don't wish to single any group out but I feel sure you will agree that a special thank you should go to the children for such a wonderful show on Christmas Eve. How nice to hear the Christmas story from a different perspective - obviously very much enjoyed both by those taking part and those watching. Well done to the children and their leaders for all their hard work.

Thanks everyone for making my Christmas so special, I hope yours was too.

Lesley Webster

Session Clerk.

Burns Supper

Tickets are now available for the church Burns Supper which will take place on Friday 26th January 2001. The event will include all the traditional stuff - speeches, music and of course piping in of the haggis for the "Address to a Haggis".

The event is being organised by Sandra Summers and tickets, priced £5, can be obtained from her. Sandra's telephone number is 551 3176.



to our stage manager. Alternatively, please feel free to join us on Monday evening's from 8th January at 8pm in the small hall. You will be made very welcome.

On behalf of the Drama Group, I wish all of the readers of Kirk Outlook a very Happy New Year.

Old faces and new - see 'letters' on page 13

The Brigade Bugle!

By
Malcolm Burton
Captain 19th Leith

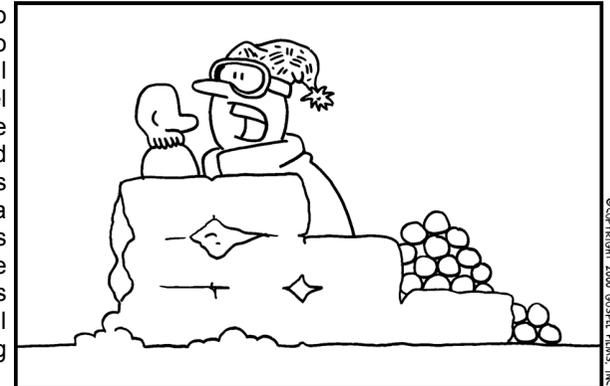
Welcome to the first Brigade Bugle of the New Year. On behalf of the Company, I extend a Happy New Year to you all.

The Christmas period was as you can imagine, a hectic time for the boys and staff as we undertook our usual Christmas party for the Junior Section and our Christmas indoor sports and games for the Company Section. The party was well attended, with the boys enjoying an evening of fun and games, lots of food, lots of noise!! and presents to finish with. The older boys as ever took their Christmas competitions very seriously and thankfully sportingly and a lot of skill and effort was on show.

Distinctions

Jamie Mushet won the distinction of being the first boy in the Company to reach all four finals only to lose three to Scott McGill and the other to Daniel Parker. Trophies for the winners will be awarded once the Company restarts and Jamie will receive a special trophy to mark his achievement. For the record, Jamie is a Hearts supporter and therefore well used to being on the losing

REVEREND FUN WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM



LET HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN CAST THE FIRST SNOW

"Why is Sunday school on Sunday? I thought it was supposed to be our day of rest." (Tom)

"It rained for our whole holiday and my dad is really mad! He said some things about you that people are not supposed to say, but I hope you will not hurt him anyway. Your friend, but I am not going to tell you who I am."

Drama Group

What's Brewing up in the Drama Group?

by *Stuart Mitchell (Secretary)*

Following hard on the heels of our recent production of "The Sorcerer's Tale", the group has decided to continue with historical settings and themes. Consequently we have chosen "Macbeth" as our next production (currently scheduled for late April).

Yes Shakespeare comes to Granton though not in the traditional sense as the version we will be performing (if we can fit the title on the tickets!!) is "The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of "Macbeth". This hilarious and fast paced play has a large cast and is suitable for all with the exception perhaps of younger children who may find it difficult to follow (and the members of the cast who are already finding it difficult!!). Seriously though it is well worth buying a ticket for and for bringing friends and family along to.

The group was greatly encouraged by attendance's for the last play and particularly by the support from members of the congregation. With this in mind I should like to extend on behalf of the group, a great big **THANKS** to you all. We hope that this level of support will continue and perhaps even increase. This will allow us to build on our success and in turn allow us to perform some of the better plays available. The cost of production (in particular royalties) is ever increasing and therefore the support of the congregation and their families, friends etc is vital in generating the required revenue. If you have not attended one of our plays before then all we can ask is that you consider giving us your support. We can assure you of a good night's entertainment at a very reasonable price.

As our forthcoming play requires a lot of backstage effort (or to be exact even more effort than usual) any offers of help will be gratefully accepted. The majority of the work will centre round set and prop construction and a crew will be needed during the run of the play to shift scenery etc. Please contact me on 552 6046 (home) or 07769968756 (mobile) and I will pass your details on

"Did You really mean 'do unto others as they do unto you,' because if you did, then I'm going to fix my brother." (Darla)

"Thank You for the baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy." (Joyce)



The Kirk Session has decided to stop issuing Communion cards and instead to issue an Invitation at the beginning of the year to come to any of our special services including Communion. The Invitation gives details of all the dates of our special services and therefore should be kept to hand ie. on your pinboard, on the mantlepiece etc!

Origin

The origin of Communion cards lies in the days when, if people were judged fit to attend Communion they would be given a Communion token which allowed them to attend church for the Sacrament. If the parishioner were unable to answer all the questions put to him/her by the elder (reciting the ten commandments etc.) - a process called Catechizing- then they would not be given a token and therefore barred from attending Communion.

Moved on

We have thankfully moved on from these days, with the only purpose of the cards being to keep a record of attendance. For a number of years now churches have not been obliged to keep a record of attendance at Communion and therefore the Kirk Session feels that the cards no longer serve a purpose.

The Kirk Session did however like the

Communion Cards

With your copy of Kirk Outlook this month you should also have received an Invitation to all of our special services this year.

idea of an invitation to attend Communion and so we extended that invitation to include all other services. We thought that it would be helpful to have in writing something which gives an idea of the church year - of 'what happens when' - in the Church.

Your Elder will continue to deliver your Kirk Outlook and you will still be visited by your Elder although not necessarily just before Communion.

We want people to feel welcome at any of our worship services and not to feel that they should have a card to attend any particular service. We believe that these changes are for the better.

Lynne



Sunday School

Christmas Rapping and Festive Fun

by Stuart Mitchell
Sunday School Co-ordinator

With the Festivities ended and at the dawn of a New Year, I thought it appropriate to look back on the Sunday School's contribution to worship over the Christmas period.

The most obvious contribution was of course the staging of "The Angry Hotel Man" which I'll come to later. The telling of the Nativity story aside, the advent period as a whole was full of memorable highlights. Who can forget the children coming in to church via the aisle, carrying various items that formed the basis of the children's address, the excitement of the little ones in building up the nativity scene, the sense of impending excitement as each advent candle was lit and the singing of the advent song? Having the children involved in this way, gives them a real sense of belonging and a feeling of self worth in having contributed to the service.

Now back to the Nativity production which the children thoroughly enjoyed. A great deal of work was put in to this by all of the teachers and a number of helpers (John Webster and

THE ANGRY HOTEL MAN

Sandra Summers deserve a special mention for their work on scenery and costumes) and I take this opportunity to thank them once again for their wonderful efforts. I am sure you will agree that the production worked very well in telling the story in a modern rather than traditional way. This helped the children's understanding of the events leading up to the birth of Christ and it was easy to see that they were having great fun putting this over to the Congregation. I can honestly say that it's the first time we've had rappers in the church (as opposed to the wrappers on the sweets that are normally passed round!!). The sight of a host of Angels appearing from behind the Communion table will be (for me and I'm sure a great many others) one of the highlights that will stick in the mind for a very long time.

Aside from the Nativity play itself, the children were heavily

involved in making Christmas tree decorations, Christmas cards etc and in collecting money for Christian Aid through the special advent calendars that were given to each of them. Their collection raised £115 pounds or thereabout and I'm sure you'll agree that this was a magnificent effort for which the children (and their parents) deserve a great deal of credit.

Two other major events over the Christmas period were the Christmas Party for the younger children and the trip to the pantomime at the Church Hill theatre for the older children. Both events were great fun and once again a great deal of thanks are due to the Sunday School teachers in giving up even more of their time at a very busy time of year for everyone. Special thanks are due to Gillian Macintosh and Linda Young for their work in co-ordinating and running the party and most importantly, assuring Santa's presence (and presents). Special thanks also to Charles Macintosh and Derek Young for chauffeuring the children (and those who were prepared to act like children) to and from the pantomime.



All in all for the Sunday School it was a very MERRY CHRISTMAS.

All the very best from all of us in the Sunday School to all of you in the Congregation for a very Happy New Year.

KIRSTY'S COFFEE MORNING

Eva and Ilean would like to thank all our faithful friends who support the weekly coffee mornings, and the teams who do the work to see that we are all looked after and supply items for our wee bring and buy table,

It gave us such a thrill to be able to hand over £1,700 to the treasurer.

It's a wonderful effort by so few, and we all enjoy our weekly blether and laughter.

So if any readers would like to come along and join us please don't hesitate - just come and join us any Thursday morning 10.00am - 11.30am.

We wish you all a very happy new year.

"I went to this wedding and they kissed in church. Is that OK?" (Neil)

"What does it mean You are a jealous God? I thought you had everything." (Jane)

"Instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't you just keep the ones you've got now?" (Jane)

"Who draws the lines around the countries?" (Nan)