

Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society

Affiliated to the RSGB

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Millennium Reflections

When we next meet we shall have crossed the threshold of the new Millennium, hopefully without any major catastrophe. In the celebrations there has been much emphasis placed on the achievements and discoveries of mankind over the past 2000 years and more particularly those of the past century. We especially value the advances in communications as we pass the centenary of Marconi establishing his Company here in Chelmsford and recall that it was through the enthusiasm of amateurs listening to it's transmissions that public broadcasting was launched in this country.

The many achievements in all fields of science, technology and art should, however, not deflect us from celebrating the 2000th anniversary of God communicating with the world, in the clearest possible way, by taking the form of the man Jesus. Through him mankind has been able to discover who God is and what men and women may become. He left us with the good news of his continuing presence with us and a set of ethical values to live by. He leaves us free to choose or reject them but we should know by now that they represent the only way if the world is to be worthy of it's loving Creator and a good place for all people to live in.

The new century and millennium stretch out before us with the potential to make His will for all people a reality. Each of us has a part to play, whatever our calling. As communicators we have a unique role. We are frequently talking to strangers but have no knowledge of their circumstances. Maybe they are disabled or elderly, possibly living alone with their radio, the only link to the outside world; they need a listening ear. Others may find communicating by key or microphone difficult; they need our patience. Some find the concepts difficult to grasp; they need our advice. Youngsters are keen to learn; they need our encouragement. Since I was first bitten by the 'bug' as a teenager I have found these qualities present in the vast majority of the many amateurs I have known and worked over the years. Pray that we may all be endowed with these gifts and communicate them through our words and deeds on and off the air and so play our part in fulfilling the millennium prayer composed by a young Suffolk schoolgirl:

Dear Lord our heavenly Father,
At the dawn of a new millennium,
In a world of darkness give us your light,
In lands of war and prejudice grant us peace,
In a world of despair give us hope,
In a world of sadness and tears show us your joy,
In a world of hatred show us your love,
In a world of arrogance give us humility,
In a world of disbelief give us faith,
Give us courage to face the challenges of feeding the hungry,
clothing the naked, housing the homeless and healing the sick.
Give us the power to make a difference in your world,
and to protect your creation,
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

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