

Your Invitation

To Taste and See 'Christmas - The Story' in Cardiff
Friday 9th December 2011



Dear Friend,

We would like to extend a warm invitation to you to come and visit "Christmas - The Story" with us in Cardiff on Friday, 9th December, 2011 - we will even throw in lunch! We would like to share a Nativity vision with you in the hope that you will be encouraged to join the journey with us, or better still start your own!

Why?

Sadly the Christmas story is being lost at an alarming rate from today's society and culture in the UK, and the facts are startling and have proven to be a wake up call for the Churches and community groups in Cardiff.

The facts:

- in 2007 **36%** of 18-25 year olds did not know where Jesus was born;
- fewer than **2%** of Christmas cards have a religious theme;
- a year later, only **44%** of junior school children could link Christ to Christmas;
- Cardiff does not want to lose the true meaning of Christmas.

In late 2009 the Cardiff Nativity Group came together to devise a twenty-minute nativity play, to be performed by live actors, all day, every day, throughout December. People could step off the street into a piece of professional theatre - staged, lit and costumed - using an extraordinary mix of live actors, unique puppets, and specially-composed music and narration - to encounter the wonderful story that is the living heart of Christmas. Entirely free, it would provide a welcome break for weary shoppers, a treat for families, an educational experience for school groups - and a reminder for all of the true meaning of Christmas.

During December 2010 this unique gift was given to the people of Cardiff by the Churches of Cardiff. Approximately 5,000 people came. 800 children came on school trips. People of all faiths and backgrounds came – and everyone loved it. "Christmas – the Story" was performed 180 times over 18 days. It happened because 200 volunteer actors and stewards emerged from churches of all denominations, and worked successfully together to make it happen.



Christmas - The Story c/o Church House, Church Road, Lisvane, Cardiff CF14 0SJ -
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The Project is headed up by Director, Sally Humble-Jackson, fully supported by a management committee from a range of denominational and business backgrounds, and from its inception has earned the admiration and support of the Bible Society. While the project team are committed to delivering this gift to the people of Cardiff, we also believe that God has given us a National vision for 'Christmas - The Story' allowing churches in other towns and cities to offer this gift to their communities, and returning the Nativity Story to the lives and Christmas celebrations of people across the UK.

You are warmly invited to a “Taste and See” event in Cardiff on Friday 9th December. You will be able to watch a performance, speak with some of our volunteers, have lunch and ask questions of our team and local church leaders, and hear something of our story and journey so far.

We appreciate that December is an extremely busy month – but it's also the only month in which you can taste and see what is happening here in Cardiff. We would value enormously the gift of your time. Tabernacl, the Welsh Baptist Church which generously hosts the event, is on the busiest pedestrianised area of the city – just a few minutes' walk from the Millennium Stadium, Cardiff Castle – and facing one of the best shopping centres in Britain. You may wish to make the most of your day by mixing in some Christmas shopping and sightseeing – the city has plenty to offer.

We do hope you will be able to join us on 9th December, please use the enclosed booking form to book your place.

Yours sincerely



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