

The year is: 007; The place is: Siena. The name is: Bond, James Bond!
(...more on that assignment later...)

Happy Christmas 2007 Everyone!

It has been another busy year and as our memories not quite as they used to be, we rely on the photos to remind ourselves what happened this year! We are attempting to update our address list, so if you haven't received anything from the Copthorne Cuttings for a few years, we apologise - we are full of good intentions and we really do like keeping in touch!

We have been here almost 12 years now and this has probably been the hardest yet. A number of key church members who have moved out of the area continue to be missed; and we are constantly struggling for children's leaders, musicians and youth leaders. We're thinking of banning any more of the congregation from leaving to train for the ministry!! (4 ordinands from Copthorne in the last 7 years.) Plugging the various gaps takes its toll after a while, and alongside this, Alastair took very little time off this year, as Paul our Assistant Priest was covering elsewhere.

So what has God been saying to us? Well, perseverance seems to have been important, along with faithfulness & trust. We are thankful for so much in our families who continue in good health. Kay's parents have just celebrated their Golden Wedding and Alastair's parents will celebrate theirs in July '08. We look forward to what next year holds in store.



Laura went to a German Christian youth ski camp in Switzerland with friend Maren in April and had a fabulous time. It was her first unaccompanied flight and holiday and she loved every minute! By the end of the week she was coming down the 'Black Runs'... good job Kay didn't know! Laura hopes to go again in March 2008. Hannah, Kay & Alastair went to Paris for 5 days after Easter, travelling by Eurostar and staying in a lovely little apartment in the centre of Paris. The weather was glorious and we walked miles, packing in as many sights as possible.





We stayed home at half-terms this year - to help encourage revision! But we did manage a family holiday to Italy courtesy of Airmiles. We had a few days in Rome and a week in Tuscany and did lots of sight seeing again - it wasn't as hot as we'd expected so we only swam in the pool once. Highlights were our first trip to Rome and also Siena - though the Il Palio horse race was terrifying!! Many 'celebs' also came to watch: we saw Daniel Craig there (preparing for the next 'Bond'!) - but did not see Tony & Cherie Blair!

Hannah had a busy year!

She studied French GCSE out of school as an 'extra', alongside 3 (4 if you count Gen. Studies) AS Level subjects and one at A2.

She also sat her grade 6 Saxophone and took part in various theatre productions. We were in Italy when the exam results came out - Hannah did extremely well, despite her mothers concerns over revision!



Kay's school have had a very difficult year. No Headteacher; and the acting deputy (43) diagnosed with cancer the same week as Ofsted arrived... It has been a stressful time. Andrée sadly died a few weeks ago and the new Head, who started in September, is still finding her feet. However the pupils in Kay's class remain as rewarding as ever - one 13 year old took his first solo steps recently and we are all thrilled with his achievement.

So what of the future? Well, Hannah has just sent off her UCAS form & is hoping to study English in London, probably at Kings. The theatre, concerts, shopping and culture definitely appeal! Laura sits her GCSEs in 2008 and is trying to decide what to do next, and whether to apply to college or stay on at school. She thoroughly enjoyed work

experience in October with hearing-impaired children. She has several holidays planned - school trips to Paris and Berlin, skiing with Maren, Soul Survivor and Greenbelt in the summer! It's strange to realise that the days of family holidays are numbered - unless we were going to NZ of course!



Alastair, Kay.
Hannah and Laura