



The longer I am in ministry, the more I am convinced that for most people, their most closely guarded resource isn't their money, but their time. Ask someone to drop 5 or 10 quid in the offering plate? Easy. Asking them to donate an hour to a project? Suddenly I find they're far more reluctant....and perhaps this is rightly so. After all, we can always make more money, but time is the only truly finite resource. Every second that we put toward one project or endeavour is one that can't be put elsewhere.

This is especially true in the month of December. There are so many events and people clamouring for our time and attention....this party...that dinner....there is no way we can possibly be everywhere that we want or need to be. Yet we know that there are places God wants us to be.

Each year, the pastoral team at Godalming distributes a small booklet advertising our upcoming Christmas services. This year, the theme of that booklet is “Time for Christmas”. The artwork is original, provided by a member of our church* and, without any guidance, she hit exactly upon what I feel is one of the most overlooked aspects of the Festive Season: that although it is definitely “time for Christmas”, we also need to “make time for Christmas” or “take time for Christmas”.

Don't let the cooking and the cleaning and the partying overwhelm your sense of awe this Christmas. Take time, make time, to remember and honour what the Christmas season is all about: that baby in a manger that was born for all of us.

It's time for Christmas. How will you spend it?

In His Service,

Adam Payne
Godalming United Church

Good News/Resources

* **Maureen Nye**. Maureen's work can be found at <http://www.maureen-nye.com>

Paul Kerensa recounts the Christmas story in his own inimitable way at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGhdEnvbBOo>

Paul is an English comedy writer and stand-up comedian. He studied at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford and the Guildford School of Acting. He is probably best known as a writer for the TV series *Miranda*, *Not Going Out* and *Top Gear*. He regularly takes part in BBC Radio 2's *Pause for Thought*.

Most recently Paul has been researching the origins of the BBC (to mark its 100th anniversary). Paul has kindly agreed to write a piece on religious broadcasting origins for the next *Wey Forward*.