

We The People
Program 116
Christmas Reflections



Where one earth does the time go as it's nearly Christmas again. The major events in the year for me are Easter and Christmas and somewhere else down the track, my birthday. I say that not because I want another birthday but because they seem to roll around relentlessly and each year there is another candle atop my cake fairly ablaze with a great fire even greater than last year. Nonetheless I am still here in reasonable health and will be on air next year thanks to 4CRB and its great army of listeners.

I think Christmas is a time for thanks giving and for reflection about the miracle of creation and the very reason for Christmas being Christ himself and the eternal yuletide gift given so freely. I must say I have never understood why people take Christ's name out of Christmas and replace it with an X but perhaps that's because we are a so called Godless secular society. Democracy in this country is based on laws and principles garnered directly from the Bible and from Christianity and it's of immense value to all of us, believers or not. As our Nation excuses God from our lives and claims we are a secular society with a Godless government then as a nation we diminish in stature and invoke social and moral decline on ourselves and this is self evident. As Australia embraces the loud course voices of wayward minorities then we exchange the wisdom in the great tome for idolatry and self indulgence and true justice appears only for the wealthy. Ask yourself the question, how is society today and how are we Australians travelling this Christmas. Do we enjoy happiness in the deepest way or is joy just another political or business win or a conflict of interest we explain away with a technicality. Unfortunately I see Australian society declining just as surely as we have lost the inspiration of Christmas and these two facts are irrefutable.

The simple joy of giving either a modest gift or an act of kindness seems to be frowned on and unless it is listed on the stock exchange or recorded in Forbes it isn't of value. When I went to the Forbes's wealth list on the internet this morning a quote for the day randomly came up which said..... "*The real measure of your wealth is how much you'd be worth if you lost all your money.*" Now there is much wisdom in that and a great irony in being reminded on my way to view the most shallow bench mark site on the internet. Indeed our own personal worth is difficult to calculate and depends on what we believe and what moral stocks we hold in our sacred portfolio. Perhaps if we thought of Christmas as the AGM of the world's spiritual stock exchange the dividends may well be much larger for us and the risk of losing our investment much less.

This Christmas I will reflect on all the wonderful people I have spoken to because of 4CRB and my radio broadcasts. I will reflect on the many good folk helping others in charities, rehabilitation, with meals and a kind word for the sick, elderly and lonely and in comforting lost youth. So many willing to share their view and so many prepared to speak out about our cold society where the worship of greed and avarice reigns supreme. Next year I'll be back with a weekly comment again and rattling the can with fact and opinion. As the great station supporter Graham Dillon says "we fight the good fight" and indeed we do because to do less would be to betray what Christmas should stand for.

On a lighter note being a lover of dogs and especially German Schnauzers, I adore having them around at Christmas as they bring an unbridled sense of joy to my home. Mind you Schnauzers seem to be especially joyful if not naughty, most of the time. The little Christmas mate I have this year is Kaiser and he inspired a short verse I've written to keep this end of year narrative bright and positive and to thank all you good listeners who care. It's called.....

A Canine Christmas.

If you and your dog should knock at my door
You'll be welcomed inside by hand and by paw,
There's presents the dog can rip tear and bust,
And food here a plenty with liver and nuts.

Dogs seem to know that there's much fun afoot
As they gaze at the tree and all of the loot,
They seem to be happy just to fetch and to sit,
They wear antlers and red coats and don't mind a bit.

Dogs are a gift to the lonely and poor
A priceless companion to so many more,
A dog has mans virtues and none of his vices
Faithful forever their presence is priceless.

So bark greetings young Boris, Natasha and Duke
That you're with us at Christmas is not just a fluke,
Up Donna and Blitzen and bark harder dear Kaiser
As yuletides mount up, my dog just gets wiser.

So if you and your dog should knock at my door
Ill welcome you in and give thanks and much more,
That the real spirit of giving omnipresent in dog
And it can't be by chance its spelt backwards as God.

A happy and peaceful Christmas and until next time this is Kent Bayley.