

The God Spot

Change or Stability?



I wrote last month about the surprises of 2016: who knows what 2017 will bring? These are some of the events whose anniversaries fall this January:

25 years ago

- In an IRA bomb attack near Omagh, seven construction workers are killed and seven others injured.

30 years ago

- Church of England envoy Terry Waite is kidnapped in Lebanon.
- Golliwogs are banned from Enid Blyton books by their publisher and replaced by gnomes.

40 years ago

- Clive Sinclair introduces a two-inch screen TV set, retailing at £175.

50 years ago

- The UK, Soviet Union, and USA sign the Outer Space Treaty.
- Milton Keynes, a village in north Buckinghamshire, was formally designated as a new town.
- The United Kingdom entered the first round of negotiations for EEC membership in Rome.

75 years ago

- Desert Island Discs first broadcast on the BBC Forces Programme.

80 years ago

- Safety glass in vehicle windscreens becomes mandatory in Great Britain.

90 years ago

- First live radio commentary of a football match anywhere in the world, between Arsenal F.C. and Sheffield United at Highbury.
- The first transatlantic telephone service is established - from New York City to London.

100 years ago

- The sea defences at the village of Hallsands, Devon are breached, leading to all but one of the houses becoming uninhabitable.
- Silvertown explosion: 73 are killed and 400 injured in an explosion of 50 tons of TNT in a munitions plant.

300 years ago

- The Netherlands, Great Britain, and France sign the Triple Alliance.

400 years ago

- Pocahontas received at court; she dies two months later at Gravesend.

So what is new?

Life moves on: some things advance some are worse; some significant, some forgotten or taken for granted; but some things never change. Are you hoping for change or for stability? Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever: Jesus can change your life. If you are prepared for both change and stability, take Jesus seriously this year!

Margaret Hobbs is from
St Thomas's Church, Oakwood
www.st-toms.org.uk

