

# EDITORIAL

with Hartley Coles



## The first Christmas

According to Luke 2:1-16:

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified. But the angel said to them "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you; you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying "Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

When the angels had left them and gone to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that had taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.



**HAVE YOU BEEN GOOD?:** Guess who the main attraction at the Acton branch of the Royal Canadian Legion's Christmas party - well Santa Claus of course. There was a full house for the party on Sunday, Dec 14 with lots of gifts for the children - *James Hayes Photo*

## I just love Christmas

I love Christmas. As soon as our Santa Claus parade happens I am ready to start the Christmas season.

I know we should have put our outside lights up when the weather was not like it is now, however, being the people we are, the Dude and I didn't. Somehow this year the lights for the roof just never got up. I did however make up for it inside.

One night shortly after the parade, I headed to the basement to find the boxes with our decorations in them. The Dude was watching t.v. while, I, the elf, started to decorate.

"Oh, I forgot I had this one..." I informed him as I placed another lighted garland up, this one on the staircase. "I think that's enough" he told me, "You already have all the other ones up." This one I bought at the end of last year when the Christmas stuff was on sale.

I just fluffed him off. He was starting to sound Grinch like. As I hummed Christmas carols (my singing is something to be desired and not many desire it) I soon had Santas out, snowmen on tables and Christmas balls hanging by coloured ribbon almost everywhere. We even had two miniature Christmas trees in our bedroom one that when it is lit, well let's just say we don't need a night light in the bedroom at this time.



By **Angela Tyler**

"Okay...enough already...think about all the hydro you're using" the Grinch-ie Dude said. It comes but once a year and I could care less about the hydro bill. "It's not even December 1st" he continued as I continued to ignore him.

I love everything. I love our real tree. I love the stars that light up our front windows. I love the Christmas flowers in our bathroom. I love how the spare bedroom door is shut off tight to anyone but me. That's where the presents are waiting to be wrapped. The bedroom is my Christmas hideaway where I can immerse myself in paper, bows, tape and the presents I've so carefully chosen for the people I love.

However, with all the decorations, the lights and presents, there is one more thing that I love. Without it up, just wouldn't be Christmas.

It may seem kind of silly, yet, I get this special Christmas feeling when I see on t.v. some old Christmas specials on t.v. and I just have to watch, even though it might seem really odd for a 40 year old to be watching them.

One night, I had on Andy Wil-

liams and his brother's Christmas special on PBS. The Dude looked at me like I was off my rocker. "Do we have to watch this?" he asked.

"Didn't you watch these sorts of shows when you were growing up?" I responded. He didn't, but for me it reminded me of shows my grandparents would have watched. It was a rerun from the '60's and it was what Christmas specials should be, not what we have now.

Then this past week, my all time favourite Christmas shows were on and I was delighted. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Santa Claus is Coming to Town were on. Not the new ones. These were the old cartoons from my youth that had Burl Ives narrating and singing.

How could any Christmas memory not have one of these in them? Sure there are lots of new cartoons and movies about Christmas, but I can't help but get a little misty-eyed sentimental when watching these shows and yes, I do still watch them. They are "classics."

I can't wait for Christmas morning. I guess it's just the kid in me coming out again. And yes, in some way I guess I still believe in Santa Claus because on Christmas Eve, I still find myself looking up into the sky because you never know, you might just see Rudolph's red nose guiding the big guy's sleigh to all the girls and boys.



**THE NEW Tanner**  
PUBLISHING LTD.

373 Queen Street East, Unit 1  
Acton, Ontario L7J 2N2  
email: [thenewtanner@on.aibn.com](mailto:thenewtanner@on.aibn.com)

(519) 853-0051 Fax: (519) 853-0052

**Publisher**  
Ted Tyler

**Editor**  
Hartley Coles

**Editorial Contributors**  
Mike O'Leary Frances Niblock  
Angela Tyler Rebecca Ring

**Advertising and Circulation**  
Marie Shadbolt

**Composing**  
Ken Baker Tracey Gardner

Distributed to every home in Acton and area, as well as adjoining communities.

Every effort will be made to see advertising copy, neatly presented, is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors or omissions in advertising, but will gladly reprint without charge that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur provided a claim is made within five days of publication.

All articles, advertisements and graphic artwork appearing in The New Tanner is copyrighted. Any usage, reproduction or publication of these items, in whole or in part, without the express written consent of the publisher of The New Tanner is a copyright infringement and subject to legal action.