



## What's so special about 2012?

### The Olympics

It's an Olympic year in the UK; it's also the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. There are lots of reasons for people to get together, to eat, play and talk. Throughout the country people will be watching Olympic events, setting up street parties, celebrating success and commiserating over failure. The church – us - should be using the opportunities to get to know neighbours and start building communities.

### The resource we need

1,000 years ago, Christian missionaries from this region took the Christian faith to Scandinavia (you'll see the cross on most Scandinavian flags). To say 'thank you' Norway is sending 1,000 young Christians to the North-East this summer to help us in reaching our communities. We will have enthusiastic, trained and energetic help – a team of 20+ in Cramlington.

### LOVE\_Cramlington is our response to these opportunities.

#### Will you be part of this?

Please pray and come to the AGM next week prepared to respond.



LOVE\_Cramlington

### Back to Church Sunday

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, says Back to Church Sunday is "essential" in a new videocast going live as registrations open for Back to Church Sunday, 30th September 2012.

The Archbishop's address is available today at [www.backtochurch.co.uk](http://www.backtochurch.co.uk).

Since the first Back to Church Sunday in 2004, feedback suggests about 230,000 people have come back through the prayerful invitation of a friend.



The Church of England has worked with HOPE and Biblica to produce a Diamond Jubilee edition of the New Testament; 44,300 copies were ordered over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend.

The limited edition, launched in the run-up to Easter, is on sale online in packs of 50 at cost price for £25 until 1st May.

The souvenir Diamond Jubilee edition of the New Testament has been created to be given away by local churches in schools, at street parties and via other Diamond Jubilee events and initiatives. It includes eight pages of images from the Coronation and the Queen's life, linking her 60-year reign and her Christian faith. There is a

suggested reading section with Bible references on various topics and a clear guide to help readers understand the significance of Christ's birth, life, death and resurrection.

The text is the British New International Version 2011, which has been gifted by Biblica.

Dr Rachel Jordan, National Mission and Evangelism Adviser, said in a new Church of England podcast: "The Queen was given a commemorative version of the Bible herself on her Coronation Day with the words that it was the best gift she was ever going to receive. Wouldn't it be fantastic if the Church in this land gave back to the nation, in marking her Diamond Jubilee, the best gift they will ever receive - the free gift of the New Testament?"

Roy Crowne, Executive Director of the national mission movement HOPE, said: "We are thrilled with the response so far. We are making this souvenir New Testament available at cost price - just 50p a copy - so that churches can give them away as a lasting reminder of the Queen's 60 years of faithful service to the country and Commonwealth. We hope that many churches will use this opportunity to give this special gift to people in their communities as they celebrate the Diamond Jubilee."

