

**OLD MEETING HOUSE, COSELEY**  
**NEWSLETTER - JANUARY TO MARCH 2012**

**THE GATE OF THE YEAR**

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year  
'Give me a light, that I may tread safely into the unknown'  
And he replied  
'Go out into the darkness  
and put your hand into the hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light,  
And safer than a known way'

.M.L. Hoskins

Sunday 1st January	Ann Harrison Meditation for first Sunday in the New Year
Sunday 15th January	<b>NO SERVICE</b>
Sunday 5th February	Ann Harrison Hymn Singing
Sunday 19th February	<b>NO SERVICE</b>
Sunday 4th March	Alison Thursfield
Sunday 18th March	Rev. Peter Hewis Mothering Sunday

***NOTE***

As is usual we shall meet only on the first Sunday in January and February,  
Even then, weather permitting.

## BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT WOMEN'S LEAGUE

AGM will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at Birmingham New Meeting, Ryland Street, Birmingham from 11.30 a.m. commencing with coffee and bring and buy stall. Lunch (bring your own) will be at 12.30p.m. following by a short service conducted by the National President, Mrs. Barbara Clifford of Scottish District. The Business Meeting will commence at 2.15 p.m., and the day will end approximately 3.30p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us. More details from Ann Harrison (annke26@btinternet.com 0121 525 1123

### *A snowdrop by Muriel Hilton*

A snowdrop! What a lovely thing  
To speak the joy of coming Spring;  
Look how its pointed petals hide  
A softly glowing lamp inside.

A little lamp - so small a light  
To pierce the depth of winter's night,  
To bid the spectr'd fears depart ...  
I catch its gleam, I warm my heart!

Welcome from God  
O glad New Year,  
Thy paths all yet untrod,  
But prophecy and promise all –  
O Glad New Year of God.  
Another year to follow hard  
Where better souls have trod,  
Another year of Life's delight  
Another year of God  
(J.W. Chadwick)

NEW YEAR by Robert T. Weston

(taken by Rejoice Together a book of prayers, meditations  
edited by Helen Pickett)

A year is gone.  
It makes not when it began  
For it has ended now.  
There were other years,  
And some began with a birthday  
And some with a death;  
Some with one day of the month and some with another.  
Some began with a song and others with a lament,  
But today I start another year, whatever the month or season;  
It is what lies before me that concerns me now.  
There will be decision and tasks;  
There will be drudgery, achievement, and defeat;  
There will be joy and grief.  
All the raw stuff of experience  
Waiting for me to shape, to fashion as I will,  
And it will never become just what I planned.  
However it may appear to others  
I can turn it to knowledge and wisdom  
Or folly.  
If it be hard, I can make of it strength:  
It may become bone, sinew and steel  
Or ashes and waste  
Someone might say 'It all depends on what the year may bring'

MAY WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY AND

HEALTHY NEW YEAR