

## UK BIBLE STUDENTS NEWSLETTER

Mid-December 2009

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### CADBURY'S ROSES

*We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, 'I love God,' yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother (1 John 4:19-21, NIV-UK).*

**George Fox** (1624-91) was born at Drayton in the Clay (now Fenny Drayton), Leicestershire. He was troubled by various temptations and the Christian message spoke to his condition with its news of redemption and release from a pained conscience. His religious convictions deepened, moving him to publicly bear witness to the truth. In his journal he describes his many travels from town to town, criss-crossing the British Isles. It was a journey punctuated with scenes of confrontation and episodes of deep spiritual insight.

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### THE BIRTHDAY (Another in our 'Young Readers' series)

*Christians, awake! salute the happy morn, Whereon the Saviour of the world was born.*

**Birthdays are celebrated** worldwide. Marking the anniversary of one's arrival into conscious existence seems to underline the wonder of life. At about three or four years of age we begin to register and store memories of events that impress us. We begin to ask questions, exercise reason, and develop preferences. Growing up becomes very important, and we long for the independence that adulthood promises. Time, when we are young, seems endless, but granddad, in old age, ruefully remarks that: 'When I was a lad a week lasted a fortnight; now it's gone in two days!'

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### In the Rear-View Mirror

"Much more dangerous looking, to our view, is the threatened rupture between Great Britain and the United States. Related by ties of blood and history and language and religious sentiment, a war between these countries would be a specially sad picture. Yet the consanguinity of the two nations in some respects increases the danger; for both are courageous, both boastful and proud, both full of resources, and both confident of ability to teach the other 'a needed lesson,' and neither is willing to give an inch, nor to acknowledge an error. Yes, we must admit, there is great danger of a war, which would be a disgrace to the two nations which, more than any others, should be able to settle disputes justly and amicably. Nevertheless, we do not expect war. We have great confidence that the British government will find a way to arbitrate its dispute with little Venezuela. Such a course would be very much to their credit every way. Yet thoughtless public opinion, with 'brag and bluster,' may force [Prime Minister] Lord Salisbury to say and do things very contrary to his own judgment. It is safe to assume that the United States Government dare not, and will not, retreat from the essentials of its present position."

*Zion's Watch Tower and Herald of Christ's Presence, January 1, 1896, 5.*

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### Dragnet

*Items of interest from the World Wide Web*

## ***Britain***

### **Christians treated as odd**

[http://www.christiantoday.com/article/government\\_treats\\_religious\\_believers\\_as\\_oddballs\\_says\\_archbishop/24872.htm](http://www.christiantoday.com/article/government_treats_religious_believers_as_oddballs_says_archbishop/24872.htm)

### **Royal Navy adds massive submarine to its fleet**

<http://www.thisislondon.co.uk/news/article-23399926-britain-launches-massive-submarine-that-can-hear-a-ship-from-across-the-atlantic.do>

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## ***Australia***

### **Animal-to-human transplants**

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/12/10/2767879.htm>

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## ***Canada***

### **Ocean research comes to the Internet in Neptune**

<http://neptunecanada.ca/about-neptune-canada/neptune-canada-101.dot>

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## ***International***

### **Status of Same-Sex 'Marriage'/Civil Unions World-Wide**

<http://unitedfamiliesinternational.wordpress.com/2009/12/09/the-status-of-same-sex-marriage-world-wide/>

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