

MONMOUTHSHIRE **45p** Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Free Press

DEAR Friends,

What a journey and a half that was, returning home from Denmark to Hook of Holland early in the New Year to catch the overnight ferry to Harwich!

Denmark was fine, as was Holland at the end, but the 'bit' in the middle – Germany – was a nightmare, with snow and ice and accidents and diversions.

Isn't it a shame that Germany covers more miles and takes longer to get through than Denmark and Holland put together! At one point in Germany, Margaret and I felt like being on an ice rink, literally.

Thankfully all went well, and we did catch the ferry, but we have decided that this was our last such car journey, and that in future we shall fly and then get a hire car at the airport.

In the rear window of my car I have a sticker with the Greek word for fish – IC-THUS – written on it, fish of course being one of the international symbols for Jesus and his first disciples, many of whom were fishermen.

And on one of the 'ice rinks' we both found ourselves at the same time looking at that sign in the rear mirror and praying – literally – for Jesus to see us through, especially when at one point we were truly stuck and going nowhere. You may say, well, you would have got there anyway, Jesus or not, but I tell you one thing, the piece of mind and the calm and the assurance we felt having prayed like that certainly sent us on our way with a renewed and much-needed confidence.

It's a new year, and hopefully we shall all have much to delight in and look forward to. But for all of us there will be dangers and difficulties too in a world of so much pain and uncertainty.

May we never forget that Jesus is onboard with us in every situation, be it suddenly recognising Him in the rear mirror of a car, or, better still, catching a glimpse of Him there ahead of us and leading us to the safe harbour. And He will for all who trust.

Happy New Year to all the readers of the *Free Press*.

Thought for
the weak



with the Rev Preben
Andersen

Rev Preben Andersen