

# MONMOUTHSHIRE **Free Press** 45p Wednesday, October 27, 2016

THIS is the 60th edition of my Thought, so five years of monthly contributions to the *Free Press*. It doesn't bear thinking about, does it really? One day when I have nothing better to do I might use the word count on the computer and try and add up how many words in total I have used up to now to get a kind of message through – then again, perhaps better not!

As far as we know, Jesus Himself never wrote a single word. At least no written sentence of his is recorded in the Bible. He did not need to. Everything He did happened by way of speaking, sharing, and living out the Word of God, in action and by example. You cannot get better than that.

Not long ago I spoke to the afternoon meeting of our Sisterhood at church about words, and I came to the conclusion that most of us, if we are honest, use far too many of them. And I ended up sharing with them the conclusion of a short story I wrote entitled *WORDS*. It finishes like this: "The old poet thought to himself, I am going to get

a stamp and I am going to write all I need to write on the reverse of that stamp. I am going to think out carefully what the most important few words in the world might be that can reach people and hold their attention. I am going to pray for guidance and just maybe this could be the most significant line I have ever written."

It took him a long while, but when he had finished writing, he was pleased, and he carefully placed the stamp in his wallet, securely, next to his driving license and national insurance card, so that if ever he had an accident and anyone needed to look through his papers for documentation, blood types or allergies, they would also find his stamp. And now he was content. Even if he would never write another word, now he was happy.

So, what were those few words that said it all? "Jesus lives, therefore I am."

God bless you until next time. And who knows, I might be even briefer then.

**Preben Andersen**

## Thought for the weak



with the Rev Preben Andersen