

Celebrate 400 years of the King James' Bible!

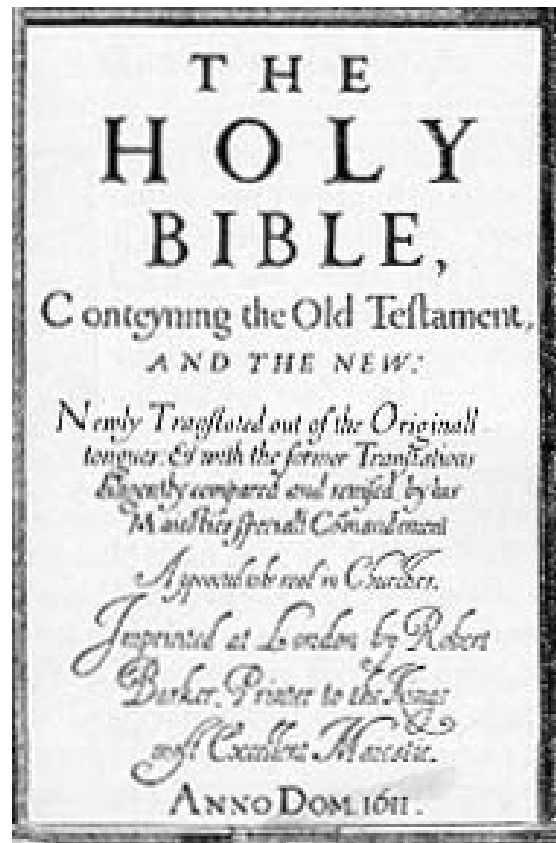
If you recognise these:

"escaped with the skin of my teeth"

"the signs of the times"

"the powers that be"

... you are proof of the influence on the English language of a Bible translation produced in 1611, the 'authorised' or King James' version.



National celebrations, drama, music and even a new stamp, are planned for next year. Don't miss all the opportunities for literacy, drama, music, art, poetry and history as well as RE.

Come and plan a cross-curricular day for your primary / middle school on the theme of the Bible.

**15 February 2011 ~ 9.30-4.00
Cathedral Conf. Centre ~ Bury St Eds**

Course Leaders:

- ❖ Helen Matter, Diocesan Schools' and RE Adviser
- ❖ Margaret Cooling, Internationally celebrated author of cross-curricular RE materials

Cost £75 per delegate (£100 for 2 from the same school)

Book your place/s now. Don't wait!

Creating an RE Theme Day for 2011

I would like to book a place on this course on 15th February at the Cathedral Conference Centre, Bury St Edmunds.

- **Delegate's Name (1)**
- ***Additional Delegate***
- **School**
- **E mail**
- **Tel no**
- **Course Code: RE 4/11**
- **I enclose a cheque payable to 'DBF' for £ (£75 for single delegate, £100 for 2)**

Signed:

Position in school:

Please return to:

Mrs Diane Matthews, Education Administrator, St Nicholas Centre, 4, Cutler Street, IPSWICH IP1 1UQ

Tel 01473 298570

Email: diane@stedmundsbury.anglican.org

Please note that unless you hear to the contrary you will be booked on the course and final details will arrive about a week before the course. Contact Diane if you have any queries.

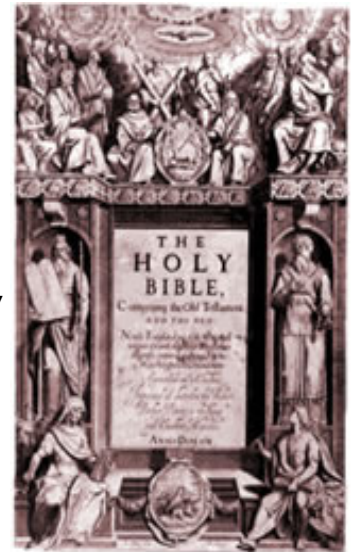


ways for schools to celebrate **400 years of King James' Bible 1611 - 2011**

In 2011 there will be national celebrations to mark the first printing of a new Bible in English. Until the mid-1500s, attempts to give ordinary Christian people access to an English-language Bible had resulted in severe punishment. Finally, in 1611, came an officially approved version, which became known as the King James, or Authorised, Version.

This Bible was the size and weight of a heavy briefcase, but its physical size was nothing compared to the huge influence it has been on the English language, on literature, art and society over the last 400 years. It remains the most-printed work in English in the world.

Although not in regular use in most schools or churches, this Bible should receive recognition for the powerful influence it has had on language and culture both in Britain and worldwide.



In 1614 James I awarded a Charter to Bury St Edmunds and it became a self-governing borough. In gratitude the authorities had his portrait painted (see picture) and hung in the Guildhall.

1. Research the story of the King James' or Authorised Bible. Create a display of amazing facts, or an illustrated timeline, to inform pupils, teachers, parents and visitors about its important place in history. Start your research at these websites:

<http://kjv400.co.uk>

<http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/2011>

<http://www.kingjamesbibletrust.org>

<http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/>

2. Discuss with staff the possibility of a cross-curricular day on the Bible in school. You could attend the course at the Cathedral Conference Centre on February 15th to help



with your planning. £75 per delegate or 2 for £100 for a day's Inset from Margaret Cooling (internationally known for her work on RE across the curriculum) and Helen Matter (schools' adviser). Details and booking form from: diane@stedmundsbury.anglican.org

Shakespeare's Globe Theatre will celebrate 400 years of the King James Bible by hosting a 70 hour cover-to-cover reading from Palm Sunday to Easter Monday 2011. 20 actors will take part in this "unstaged" event, a rare opportunity to "experience one of the most significant pieces of world literature in its entirety".



3. Record a chapter of the Authorised Bible on 'you-tube' to add to the attempt to record the whole KJV Bible on you-tube in 2011. Find the details here: <http://www.kingjamesbibletrust.org>

However, like the Globe, you may also like to hold a Bible reading marathon, maybe trying to read the gospels of Matthew or Luke rather than the whole Bible, and possibly as a sponsored event for charity.

*I escaped by the
skin of my teeth*

The King James' or Authorised Version of the Bible has been hugely influential in the development of the English language, ranking with Shakespeare and the Oxford English Dictionary. Many phrases from its text are still commonplace.

4. Use <http://www.phrases.org.uk/index.html> to find out some of these phrases and carry out a survey to find out who knows what they mean and which are the most familiar. Display your results.

Is the best-selling artist of all time Van Gogh or Picasso? The real bestseller is a Swiss religious artist, Annie Vallotton. She created the illustrations for the popular 'Good News' Bible, often used in schools.

5. Become Bible artists. Find out more about Annie Vallotton. See how she illustrated a Bible book such as Jonah or Ruth. Read the text in Authorised and Good News Bibles e.g. at www.biblegateway.com. Design your own illustrations to go with the stories. Award prizes for the best results or enter them for the NATRE 'Art in Heaven' competition 2011. Entries by the end of July. See www.natre.org.uk/spiritedarts/



SPIRITED ARTS



Royal Mail will mark the 400th anniversary of the publication of the Authorised King James Version of the Bible with a special stamp set during 2011. There has been a suggestion that these will be nativity scenes inspired by verses from the King James Bible. The stamp shown was issued in 1999 to commemorate the KJV as part of the millennium celebrations.

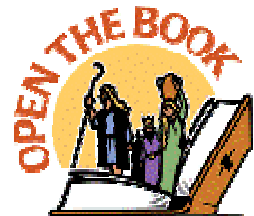
6. Design a Christmas card or stamp using a phrase from the KJV text of the nativity stories (Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2). Include the phrase on the card or stamp.

'Open the Book' is a national project to tell Bible stories to a new generation. It has been a roaring success around the country with teams of local church-goers dressing up, making props and going into schools to tell stories from the Lion Storyteller Bible. Suffolk has around 60 teams already. 2011 is a good year to improve the school's knowledge of Bible Stories in assemblies – both children and adults

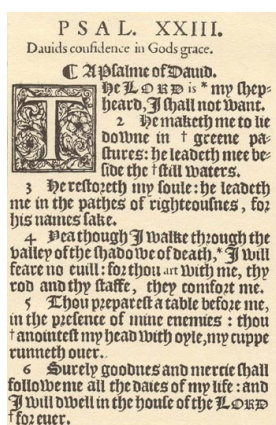


7. Contact Helen Matter helenm@stedmundsbury.anglican.org or Barbara Gallagher barbarajg@btopenworld.com if you would like to find out about having a team.

If you have a team already, compare an Open the Book assembly with how it is told in the KJV. Try acting it out using the older language. Interview your OTB team about why the Bible is important to them.

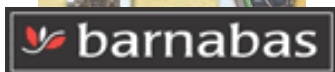
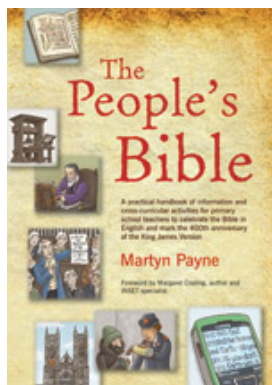


Watch out for details of an Open the Book spectacular performance at Bury Cathedral on Saturday June 11th when the whole Storyteller Bible will be performed alongside KJV readings.



You can now look at a digital reproduction of the King James Bible as it appeared when it was published in 1611. Read and search this Version on www.kingjamesbibletrust.org.

8. Give a literacy week to the use of text from the KJV, taking for example, the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke (10:25-37) or maybe Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd. Practise reading the text and checking unfamiliar vocabulary and phrasing. Try to put the story / poem into modern English and compare with more modern texts e.g. Good News Bible or The Message. For older pupils, try reading the actual text from the digitised version of the original KJV (see above).



Barnabas in schools have a new workshop for children which explores what sort of book the Bible is, the types of stories it tells, and how different stories can be 'true'. Through drama, storytelling and music, pupils explore the significance of stories for themselves and for Christians, uncover the struggle to translate the book into English, and about its impact on so many aspects of UK life. It's active, enjoyable and educational!

More info, including INSET details, teacher's handbook and DVD, at www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/2011

9. Bring KS2 children to a Barnabas' 'Good News' workshop at Bury Cathedral on September 22nd, 2011 (10 to 2) and / or attend a twilight teacher

INSET the same day. Enquiries to Liz Kirby - Discovery Centre 01284 748731. **Or visit** the Barnabas website for lots of ideas of things to do in RE lessons and Collective Worship to celebrate 2011.

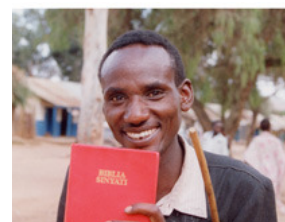
<http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/5421>



The King James Bible enabled millions to hear or read the Bible in their own language as well as taking a formative role in developing that language over time. Bible Society exists because millions still lack the Bible in a

language they can understand, a form they can use or a price they can afford. Christians across the world want the Bible in their heart language rather than a second or third tongue and others want to share the Christian story with neighbours. Bible Society is involved in translation work and other ways of communicating the Bible message e.g. Braille.

10. Make a collection of Bibles. Who owns the oldest? Contact a local church to borrow, or go to see, a large King James Bible or ask if anyone has a large Family KJV Bible that could be borrowed as a centrepiece for the display. Buy 1 or 2 in other languages.



Ask if a local church holds 'Bible Sunday'. Hold a school 'Bible Monday'. Watch video of Bibles in new languages e.g. for the reindeer herders of Finmark, on www.biblesociety.org.uk. Hold a sponsored 'read' to help someone have the Bible in their own language for the first time in thanks for an English Bible.

11. Enter the Bible Recitation Competition. Could your children recite short Bible passages in the KJV? Can they convey meaning and emotion, use accurate phrasing, and make words of great beauty come alive? Watch out for details of how to enter this county-wide competition!

