

Just about this time last year I was getting a pair of cross-country skis that arrived the day after the snow went. A few weeks ago I was phoned by a Thorper to ask if I would like to go cross-country skiing. So, after asking my wife if I could go out and play, I did.

It was good to have got out in the fresh air (and good to have got back to the pub afterwards for a mulled wine!). It was also most satisfying to have had someone remember one of my newsletter ditties, and act upon it, albeit for my entire benefit. Also good was the fact that, having waited some time after getting the skis, the effort eventually paid off.

A lot of us have had similar experiences: putting our money where our mouth is, backing a particular horse called Rector, giving new ways a go. Thank you for all that. Sometimes these things work, sometimes they don't. But you never know unless you have a go.

As we go into a new year, remember that what the Church does now may need a bit of time to pay off. But it will - because we do it in faith in Jesus, that is, trust in God. God will have His way, sometimes eventually, sometimes right away. So what will happen this year? As I said last May: exciting, isn't it?

It's 2011. A step nearer whatever is next. Be excited.