



UNUSUAL EVENTS AT LOCAL INN

Words: Traveller.

There were reports of unusual things happening in Bethlehem last night. First, a huge star was seen shining down on one of the inns in town.

Residents later reported seeing shepherds running down Main Street and entering that same inn. *Kidzone Herald* reporter Traveller interviewed the innkeeper to find out first-hand what's been happening.

Trav: *What was the cause of all the action around your inn last night?*

IK: A baby boy was born in the stable at the back of our inn, if that's what you mean. That was pretty exciting!

Trav: *Why was the baby born in the stable?*

IK: There was no room in the inn. You have no idea how busy we are because of this census. We've been booked out for weeks. I even booked out my own bedroom! When this young couple came looking for a room the other day, I had no rooms, no beds, nothing! And I knew every inn around Bethlehem was the same. The lady looked like she was about to have a baby, so

I put them up in our stable. That's all I could offer them – at least they had a roof over their heads.

Trav: *So what happened?*

IK: The baby was born there. They wrapped him up to keep him warm and laid him down on clean straw. Cute!

Trav: *Do you know the shepherds who visited the baby last night?*

IK: No, I think they live on the nearby fields. I didn't actually see them because it was late, although I did hear them when they left. They were singing and praising God. Very loudly. I hope they didn't wake up my other guests.

Trav: *Finally, why is there a huge star shining over your inn? Is anyone famous staying there?*

IK: Not that I know of. But strangely enough, it's only been above the inn since that baby was born in our stable. Makes you wonder, doesn't it?

Trav: *Thanks for your time.*

Photo: Innkeeper

A SON, JESUS, BORN TO MARY AND JOSEPH IN BETHLEHEM

A KING IS BORN



Photo: 'Host of angels'. Photo credit: Shepherds.

Words: Traveller.

Shepherds on a hill on the outskirts of Bethlehem say they were terrified last night by a huge crowd of angels that suddenly appeared overhead.

"We were just watching over our sheep as normal, when a light brighter than the sun seemed to shine around us," the head shepherd said.

"It was almost too bright to look at. We had no idea what was going on, then suddenly an angel was there in front of us. You can imagine how shocked we were!"

The angel spoke to them in a loud voice.

"I'll never forget what happened next," the head shepherd said.

"The angel told us, 'Don't be frightened, because I'm bringing you joyful news for the whole world. Today God's promised King has been born in

Bethlehem. Go and see for yourselves – you will find him lying in manger."

At that, what seemed like thousands of angels filled the sky with brilliant light. They started praising God, their voices almost deafening the shepherds as they sang, 'Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth!' Then the heavenly host left as suddenly as they had arrived.

The shepherds told this reporter that once they had recovered from their shock, they knew they had to go and see this new king for themselves.

"We rushed into Bethlehem, and it was just like the angel had told us," said the head shepherd. "We went to an inn and found a baby in the stable there, lying in a manger. It was awesome."



For more articles on this breaking story, turn to pages 2, 3 and 4.

NO ROOMS AT THE INNS

Words: Traveller.

Innkeepers in Bethlehem say every room in every inn throughout the town has been booked out for days.

This is because Caesar Augustus has ordered his officials to record the names of everyone in his empire. As each person has to return to their hometown for the census, the crowds

of people travelling back to Bethlehem have caused a shortage of places to stay.

"Business has never been better," one innkeeper said. "I've had to turn away heaps of visitors because my inn is full to the brim. I even rented out my stable to one couple!"



MYSTERY STAR APPEARS

The huge star that has recently been lighting up the night sky has caused lots of interest around Bethlehem.

People are wondering if it's a sign. Our reporter tried to contact Three Wise Men from the East for comment, but they could not be reached because they are travelling.

Birth notice
A son, Jesus, born to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem on 25 December.

He will also be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace.

Isaiah chapter nine, verse six.

BLANK BLOCKS

Who were some of the first people to visit Jesus? Use the clues to fill in the grid and then place the letters from the shaded blocks into the answer blocks to find out.

CLUES:

1. They gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
2. Town where Jesus was born.
3. Where Mary and Joseph stayed when there was no room for them in the inn.
4. Jesus' earthly father.
5. A gift given to baby Jesus.
6. Told the shepherds about Jesus' birth.
7. One of these was used as a bed for baby Jesus.
8. "For to us a _____ is born" (Isaiah 9:6-7).
9. The wise men followed this to find Jesus.

WORD SQUARE

H	H	T
E	E	B
E	L	M

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in the square?

Each letter may be used only once per word

and each word must contain the middle letter. There is one nine-letter word. Clue: Census.

1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									

ANSWER:

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COUSIN KOALA

WHAT CAROL DO YOU WANT ME TO TRY TO PLAY NEXT?

HOW ABOUT SILENT NIGHT!!!