

## 'tis the Season . . . by Anna Davison

. . . for snowflakes and sleigh rides and clear starry nights, hopes and wishes and memories. I remember my first time being old enough to attend midnight mass when I was 12. That week we had so much snow, the plows had pushed and piled it so high, we could touch the telephone wires strung from pole to pole. That night, my friends and I walked all the way up Highland Street with every footstep echoing through the night, crunch, crunch, crunch. The air was still and cold; there were millions of stars we could almost touch. We were so excited!

. . . for ornaments and Christmas bells, coloured lights and mistletoe, Christmas trees decorated with homemade popcorn and cranberry strings, paper chains and heirloom glass balls passed down through generations. For our Tongan son-in-law, Sauesi, and 13 month old grand-daughter, Ofa, this will be their first experience with a real Christmas tree in the house. Her big brown eyes will light up with delight to see shining stars and twinkling lights and red and gold balls.

. . . for Christmas pageants telling the Christmas story of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. And angels everywhere – with floppy halos on six year old heads, wired to the chimneys on housetops, the last decoration on treetops, and as a companion on our lapels! They remind us we are never alone.

. . . for gift giving. Homemade or store-bought, simple or elegant, expensive or frugal, when given with thoughtfulness from the heart, they show our love and bring joy and happiness to the receiver.

From the Davison/Pahulu household we wish a very Merry Christmas To You & all the blessings and joys of this very special season.

*Til next time, Anna M Davison,  
22 December 2011*