

# Shepherd cries wolf

Written for Christmas Eve 4pm crib service 2005.

I do like a good joke. [LAUGHS] About three years ago, we were all sat round the fire about ten yards from the sheep pens, when I said to my mates, “ere lads, look a wolf!” You should have seen the look on their faces! They jumped about three feet in the air! O it was funny. Mind you Seth wasn’t too pleased, because his coco went everywhere.

And then there was that joke I told two years ago. [LAUGHS] That was a good’un. We was all sitting round the fire eating sausages. It was drizzling, and it was cold, an we was miserable, so I thought it would be good to have a bit of a laugh. So suddenly I stood up, looked beyond the fire, pointed and said “ere lads, it’s a Lion”. [LAUGHS] You should have seen the way they all reached for their knives at the same time. Ambrose wasn’t too impressed mind. He dropped his sausage in the fire.

Oh yeah, and the best one, was last year. We were all sat round the fire, just by the sheep pens. It had been snowing like, so it was white everywhere. We couldn’t go nowhere as we couldn’t be sure the sheep was still with us. Any how’s, there was this little black speck in a great field of whiteness, and I looked at it, and I said. “Ere Lads, It’s a blooming polar bear.” [LAUGHS] you should have seen them move. Seth spent ages creeping up on it before he realised it was a bit of rock sticking through the snow, just the right shape for a nose! [LAUGHS] He wasn’t too pleased when he found out mind.

Last night, we were dead bored. The sheep was dead bored, that was how boring it was. It was dark too, and there’s nothing more boring than having nothing to look at in the dark. Well, there I was looking around for something to break up the monotony, thinking of all the jokes I had played in the past to see if there was a new angle that I hadn’t exploited yet. When I suddenly stood up. I pointed up into the sky, and I said. “Ere lads, there’s an ainjul!” Seth didn’t move. Ambrose just sat there. They took no notice of me.

Then a whole host of ainjuls appeared, radiating light all over the place, singing and praising God, and telling us to go to Bethlehem because a saviour had been born!

They believed me then.

[EXIT]