

Happy Christmas (War is over) is a Christmas song by John Lennon, Yoko Ono and The Plastic Ono Band. The song is a protest about the Vietnam War in 1969. It has become very popular as a Christmas song.

This is a very unusual Christmas song. Instead of bells and mistletoe, it asks us to think about those who live in fear and it is also a call to end war. The song is based on a concept that if a lot of people want something to happen, it will. So the idea is to get together and actively desire peace.

John and Lennon and Yoko Ono wrote this in Their New York City hotel room in 1971. It was released for Christmas but it didn't appear in the chart. The next year, it was released in the UK, where it appeared as number 4 in the chart. The song became classic in America but it took a while.

In line 15 the song says " The world is so wrong". It is said that John Lennon hesitated about this line and that he thought about " The way is so long" so it is interesting for the the reader to decide which one is better.

The song says "Happy Christmas" and we wonder why not "Merry Christmas", well , the answer is that "Happy Christmas" is more usual in the UK. Another word that is more British is "Father Christmas", which is what the Americans call " Saint Claus".

True or false

The composer were John Lennon but not Yoko Ono.

The song was written in New York

When the song appeared in the UK, there was a better response from the public.

Father Christmas is British English for Saint Claus in the USA.

The songs refers to people who live in fear in this world.

Because it is a Christmas song, there are bells and mistletoe in it.



Mistletoe is a plant (a parasite) that grows in the woods. It has white flowers. If a woman walks under it and if there is a man nearby, the lady has to give the gentleman a kiss.

So this is Christmas
And what have you done
Another year over
A new one just begun

And so this is Christmas
I hope you have fun
The near and the dear ones
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fears

And so this is Christmas
For weak and for strong
The rich and the poor ones
The war is so long

And so happy
Christmas
For black and for white
For yellow and red ones
Let's stop all the fights

A very merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good
one
Without any fears

And so this is Christmas
And what have we done
Another year over
A new one just begun

And so happy Christmas
We hope you have fun
The near and the dear ones
The old and the young

A very merry Christmas
(And a happy New Year)
Ooh, oh
(Let's hope it's a good one)
It's a good, it's a good one
Without any fear

And so this is Christmas
And what have we done
Another year over
A new one just begun