



E News July 2025

Issue 122

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Welcome to the July edition of Street Jesus e-news. Its always great to get out on the Street and speak with the public, particularly in a community where we are known and know so many people. The Summer market in Wickham market was well organised as always with 30 stalls taking part. People were asking about the free chocolates as usual but because of the hot weather we only carried a limited amount but Rad had brought cherries which were very well received by team members and visitors alike. We spoke to many people including visitors from churches in Ringwood Ipswich and the USA as well as a local quaker.



Our visitors from the USA were well versed in the 'Jesus at the door' approach, they had actually met Scott McNamara who devised this as a creative evangelical tool and which has been very useful for us as a way of engaging with people. We have adapted Scott's approach using paintings rather than cards to represent the door to our hearts and rucksacks as a way of demonstrating human sin and the holy spirit. Its most positive aspect is that people engage with it, rather than us imposing ourselves, they make the first move. The American couple videoed the process in action with the caption, Jesus at the door alive and well in Suffolk England, which they sent to members of their church. So amazing that we can communicate visually across a continent with people in an instant, to encourage people in the Lord over 3,500 miles away.



We had two significant conversations. One was around past events and the need for inner healing, the other was somebody who didn't want to be told that we all need Jesus, further asking what was so special about Jesus in relation to, say Islam or other religions. We had a longish conversation about choice, asking the question, in what things as human beings do we attribute value, what is it that would lead a person to follow Muhamud over Jesus. We believe that Jesus wants us to choose him, that he alone satisfies the deepest longings of the human soul. The underlying tension is the idea that when we make an exclusive truth claim, it automatically assumes that we denigrate all people who think and believe differently to us. But central to the Christian faith is this idea that God loves us all. In a world that values diversity and equality the danger is that all things become of equal value when they are clearly not. If when digging in the garden we strike a box with our spade which contains gold coins, would we put them back and bury them? When we store our treasures in heaven we want to display them speak of them and share them. We pray that person will find



Jesus, our real spiritual treasure.

We were able to invite one person to our seekers group which begins again in September. If you know anybody who is curious about our faith and wants to know more, then please contact us, new seekers would be most welcome.

We provided blessings and prayer, £42 was raised from the sale of bric-a-brac in aid of the Beehive children's foundation. We took £10 in donations toward Street Jesus funds. Our next outreach is at the Village show on August 2nd We hope to see you there.



Speaking of what we value, we recently received a talk from Paul Norrington at Suffolk Coastal filling station who challenged us to honestly assess, what things in life made us feel a success or failure. We knew what the answer should be but most of us on reflection probably admitted to ourselves that we tend to measure our own success in relation to others and the norms of culture. Paul gave an example of the five star rating that we often



see on various web pages, which can subtly grade us and others, but also be faked or attract malicious posters. Can we trust the five star rating?

How do we rate in the everyday, by whose yardstick are we judged and to what end. A judgement can either puff us up or deflate our ego. Once we admit that we are but filthy rags yet God loves us anyway, we obtain a kind of freedom, not least because we are all in the same boat as the rest of humanity,

We can give ourselves a more realistic perspective which help to bring us to a point of humility. We remember that whatever good there is within us comes by Gods grace and that good is simply an imprint of the image of God. Paul gave us so much to reflect on, that I wished I had taken my notebook.

There are not many more satisfying things than watching somebody grow in the Lord. We had the absolute pleasure of being present at the ordination as a deacon ,of our good friend and sister in Christ Emma Steadman at St Edmundsbury cathedral last Saturday. The cathedral is a very light space and it was very hot, mini fans and wafting service sheets were the order of the day.

All things have a beginning, Most of us have periods where we are not quite sure what Gods purpose is for us. Even when we do, we are not always certain how to go about it. We, like many characters in the bible feel inadequate or try to ignore it, because it usually involves commitment, sacrifice and a removal from our comfort zone. Even when on the journey we have our ups and downs. We learn sometimes the hard way. We don't always get it right but God through the holy spirit certainly guides and places whatever we need before us if we have a faithful heart.



We at Street Jesus have had dry bone periods along the way but prayer is always the means to get back on track. I am sure Emma can relate to that. Cathedral services are not my favourite style for worship, preferring a more lively expression to ritual formality but we can sense the holy spirit at any time in any worship format, in any church and in the day to day. The holy spirit doesn't just come out on Sunday. Emma was beaming, her face radiant as she engaged in love with all around. We pray that God will be her rock in whatever her journey will bring. We pray too for her husband Martin and all those 'significant others who support our priests.

May God bless you all. Graham



The Filling Station is an informal way of expressing the Christian Faith, using celebration meetings to encourage the local church, predominantly in rural areas across the UK.

What to expect when we meet:

A warm welcome with light refreshments... Contemporary worship led by local worship leaders... Stories of God at work today... Guest Speakers to refresh our faith... Prayer together for worldwide and personal needs...

Thursday July 17th
7-9pm
Worship evening
Chris and Von
Laughlin

The Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew
Refreshments at 7pm for a 7:30 start.

Everyone is Welcome

<https://thefillingstation.org.uk/>

All Saints
Wickham Market

SS Peter & Paul
Tottistree

OPEN DOOR

LOVE

Coffee, tea,
biscuits and
friends

Friday morning
Drop in from
10:00am

At All Saints Church
Every Friday Morning

Network SUFFOLK

Connecting Christian Communities in Suffolk

GOOD NEWS

www.goodnews-paper.org.uk

Evangelistic Newspaper

**All Saints Church
Wickham Market**

Prayer & Praise Evenings
3rd Sunday of the month
at 6:30pm

Informal service for all ages



Every third Sunday of the month at 11am
All Saints Church, refreshments from 10.30am

Oasis

Informal Service @ All Saints Church
3pm every Second Sunday. All invited!

A time of worship, fellowship,
and light refreshments.

Meet old friends and make new ones



“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.”

Matthew 25:31-32



You call us to live your life,
follow where you tread,
be your presence in these streets,
show compassion to the poor,
support the weak,
embrace the outcast,
bring lives into your kingdom.
Yet our hearts are troubled,
we are fearful of the task,
deafened to your promise
to be with us
wherever we go.
Forgive our timidity,
grant us peace for the journey
and strength for the day,
that we might demonstrate your love
in the lives we live and share.

Sunday 6th July

Afternoon Walk & Cream Tea

Meet at Wickham Market Church 3pm : All welcome

You may skip straight to the Cream Tea if you don't fancy the walk!



A big thankyou to all who supported our last Sale We raised £620 on the day and after expenses £310 has been donated to the Beehive childrens foundation.

Our next Bits and Bobs sale at Wickham Market village hall is on
Saturday July 19th 9am-2pm

Over 150 boxes to rummage through. 50% of proceeds to be donated to the Beehive children's foundation Nakuru Kenya. Refreshments available, Entrance free.



The Street Jesus 'faithful five' team on Wickham Market Hill on June 21st at the Summer market. A very hot day but some interesting conversations. Note the coffee and rich tea biscuits in the foreground. Vital sustenance on outreach days.





Our Kerry ,The Joan Baez of All Saints .
Going solo at our recent Church variety evening.

*Book of the
month*



Our next outreach is at the village show
Wickham Market Village hall
on Saturday August 2nd 12.30-4.30pm

Facebook



Check out our
facebook page
[www.facebook.com/groups/
1246450225452294](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1246450225452294)