



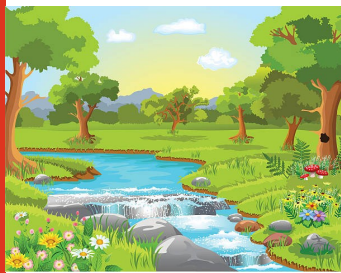
E News July 2026

Issue 134

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Welcome to the July edition of Street Jesus e-news. What an extraordinary month for weather. Starting the month with significant amounts of rain we have ended it with a heat wave with the hottest June day record broken on three consecutive days. Global warming has been in evidence for many years now and shows no sign of abating. Other countries in Europe are also struggling. Increasingly people are suffering heat stress with an increase in heat related mortality. Drought and water scarcity, agricultural decline, widespread wildfires with warmer sea temperatures damaging marine eco-systems are all more evident. There has been a plethora of advice and legislation in recent years in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint mainly by phasing out fossil fuels but also in making our homes more energy efficient. We are generally doing our bit with recycling with East Suffolk council introducing new bins in an effort to improve recycling rates and protect natural resources. The move toward solar and wind powered energy has increased dramatically as has the uptake of electric vehicles. People express anger, that despite all our best efforts to do the right thing many world leaders either dismiss the reality of global warming in favour of commercial interests or are intent on war in order to exercise power and control.



In recent conversations we have had an adapted version of the common question Why does a loving God allow suffering with Why does a loving God allow the destruction of the planet. As with many things in the scriptures God hands us the responsibility. We trust that God is sovereign that he is in ultimate control. On the stall it has been said that Christians are blasé about the environment because our focus is on life after death so we don't care what happens in this one. In truth Christians appreciate very much the wonders of creation. There are many Christian environmental groups. A Rocha, Green Christian, Operation Noah and Climate Stewards. Not least we sing 'All things bright and beautiful' from a young age. In Genesis mankind is given dominion over the planet, this is not to subdue it but rather tend it and keep it. How is humanity doing in our role as stewards.

It's always great to witness something special particularly when it involves a friend. We had the real pleasure of being a guest at Emma Steadman's ordination at Bury St Edmunds cathedral last Saturday. We have watched Emma's faith grow over a number of years and she is a great example of what our Christian faith should look like. An obedience to our calling even if it seems too difficult. Dedication to that calling. An openness to the holy spirit. Emma is very talented in the performing arts particularly in music and theatre



This creativity brings life to her sermons, yet she exhibits humility and sees it all as the gift of God's grace. God uses our talents. She and her husband Martin have been members of our home group in Wickham Market until quite recently. She clearly loves scripture and it has been a pleasure to hear her perspectives and at times to be challenged. Although we were sad when she moved on to St Michaels Framlingham we were so glad that she has been able to embrace further her journey with God. Following the rather uplifting and emotional service at St Edmundsbury cathedral we were present as she presided over her first Eucharist at St Michaels Church in Framlingham. Both services were filled with light and laughter. I suppose in many ways this is the end of the beginning for Emma but wherever God places her our prayers and support will always be with her.



Emma's Journey is just one expression of calling. It was interesting to hear the experiences of one of the project workers at Sizewell power station who visited our Wednesday morning stall. He lives in



Montana and does community outreach with a particular heart for ex-offenders. He is part of a motorcycle group very similar to the UK Christian motorcycle association and comes across some really tough characters. As part of his ministry he visits bars some of which are meeting places for political activists most commonly right-wing racist Nazi groups. He routinely sits in a corner, does not attempt to

intrude on people but gets to know them slowly over time. Recently the mother of one of the bikers died and he was able to offer practical help. This opened up lots of conversations about faith with some going on to regularly attend church and become involved in ministry. He believes that many of the tough guys underneath it all feel vulnerable and at some point they are likely to open up.

He talked about the importance of just being present, being patient and waiting on the Lord to set up divine appointments. We could relate to this, particularly when we have a quiet day out with Street Jesus. Being present and visible even if it's only the Love Hope Freedom message on the van or the Why? banner, or literature that we carry. This visibility may settle into a mind without a word being spoken. Our job is to reach into the bag and throw seed onto the ground not knowing whether it is good or bad soil. We pray that others with the help of the Holy Spirit may water those seeds.



We had another great day at the Wickham Market Summer Market. It was good to hear that two people whose spouses have died in the last year are moving forward and in a much better place emotionally. Another man had been in hospital for a very unpleasant condition but was now feeling much better. Another lady was concerned about the health of various family members as well as she herself. We continue to pray for all of them. We had three people engage with Jesus at the door. Another family showed great interest in the Christian literature and spoke of their time in Kenya so they related very much to the Beehive project. Another man who had suffered throat cancer felt ready to engage with the Christian faith. We had a long and interesting discussion. We gave him details of the seekers group which begins again in September. We pray that he will join us.



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.

Please visit the website for details.

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...

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

Within the messiness of life,
its highs, lows and in-betweens,
may we never lose touch
with that firm foundation
upon which our faith is laid,
never forget the blessings
that are ours to hold,
never forget, in darkest days
or in rainbow's light,
that God is with us always,
and worthy of our praise.

(Psalm 100:2)

"How is God glorified by a rose that
He plants in a forest so remote that no
man or angel will ever see it? He is
glorified because He sees it. How is
God glorified by those servants who
are hidden from all notoriety and
fame? Because He sees them,
knows their way and rejoices."

-PAUL WASHER





May outreach - Wickham Market

Still Waters

**In the style of Lectio Divina, time to dwell
together on God's word**

**Join us at the Wickham Market vicarage on the
second and fourth Mondays of each month**

**2 pm, all welcome, just come along and see if it
is for you**



All Rev'ed up. (Our Emma Second left)

STREET JESUS



Our next outreach is on
Wickham Market Hill
on Saturday July 25th 9am–3pm

Facebook



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