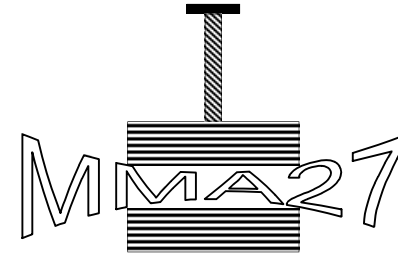


# Winepress



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By now, most of you will be aware of the HOPE 2008 project, which is encouraging Christians of all denominations to reach out together to their communities. The idea is to reach out with compassion, bringing expressions of practical help and kindness to needy people and places and also to tell people the good news about Jesus. Soon you will be hearing about the HOPE 2008 events in which our church will be involved, so keep watching!

I can't think of a better name for a Christian event. 'Hope' must sum up all the benefits the Christian faith brings to a person's life.

The title of this project is positive, countering many people's negative view of Christianity. It is too often associated with dullness, boredom, restrictiveness and a lack of emotional content. The truth is, however, that Christianity is the very opposite of all this. My experience of faith is colourful, exciting, liberating and passionate. It also brings untold benefits to my life.

An important way of engaging with our communities during HOPE 2008 will be to tell people about the good things God has done in our lives through Jesus. We need to let them know about the peace of mind, the purpose in life, the freedom from guilt, the faithful friends, the sense of never feeling alone and many other benefits which make up 'life in all its fullness', as Jesus described it.

There is nothing as positive as having a relationship with the very creator of the universe. Let's tell people what he has done for us. I think there are lots of people out there wanting and waiting to hear.

COLIN COOPER

## For Bookworms

There are several schemes in place in our parish to make good-quality Christian books available to everyone.

A new bookstall in St James' Church has recently been set up by Philip Harris, selling carefully selected books which follow the theme of current sermons and LIFE group studies.

St Luke's Church bookstall, run by Terry Clark, continues to hold a more wide-ranging selection of material for sale, including up-to-date titles by well-known authors.

The library located upstairs in the Vineyard contains around 2700 items, including cassettes and videos, which are available for loan, arranged according to subject. Being donated items, the books tend not to be so up-to-date as those on the bookstalls, but nevertheless include lots of useful titles and cover almost any Christian subject you would care to study.



The library catalogue is presently being checked through, so be aware that shelves of books may be missing from time to time. If you have long-standing borrowed items which have escaped your attention, please would you return them so that they can be accounted for?

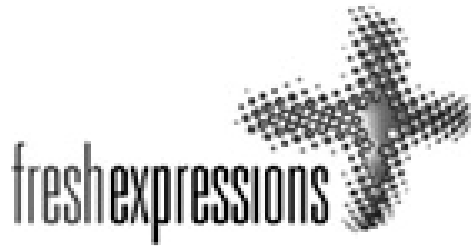
To make items from the library more accessible, and to ease overcrowding in the Vineyard, some are now being placed at the back of St Luke's. This will be done gradually, over the next couple of months, as the re-cataloguing proceeds - keep checking for new subjects to appear. It is possible that another library 'branch' may be placed in St James' sometime in the near future.

BEVERLEY WOOLLEY

# Children and Parents Together

Over the Autumn, I have been introducing you to 'Fresh Expressions of Church' (FX). As you know, FX is a way of engaging with people who have been alienated from conventional church life.

FX is not an implied criticism of conventional church; its just that some ways of doing church suit some people more than other ways. Let's remember too, that many people do not go to church at all, despite a recent census reporting that 70% of the population described themselves as Christian, so the more ways of helping them to access a Christian community the better.



This autumn has seen the establishment of a 'Fresh Expression' around the value of children and parents together. We have for some time been running a group of activities which encourage children and parents to learn about the Christian faith together. These activities include:

**Contact** - an early morning, informal all-age service

**Cre8tive** - a craft club

**See and Know** - a midweek pre-school group

**KidStuf** - an all-action family show twice a year

So why are we putting a value on working with children and their parents together? There are three main reasons:

i Some people feel they do not want to be split up from their children when they come to church. In a busy world they want 'church' time also to be 'family' time.

ii People involved in ministry to children note that children are more likely to maintain an interest in the Christian faith if their families are also interested. It is a way of sharing the Christian faith with the whole family.

iii It enables the teaching of the faith and worshipping God to be done in a way which is accessible. For some who are not used to church culture, going to church can be difficult to get used to. Worship and learning in our activities is lively, colourful and full of energy ... just the job for some young families!

COLIN COOPER

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## KidStuf

KidStuf productions are becoming a regular feature on our parish calendar. The concept is a non-traditional approach to children's ministry which centres on kids by bringing parents into their world and involving them together in a way that makes the event family-centred. Each multi-media show is based on one particular theme, such as love, endurance or compassion. They involve music, dance and drama and are designed to convey Christian faith and values in ways that make a lasting impression on the audience.

Ann tells us about the latest KidStuf production which was staged in November ...

The recent show was built around the theme of hope. Many different elements were included in the programme, from the young

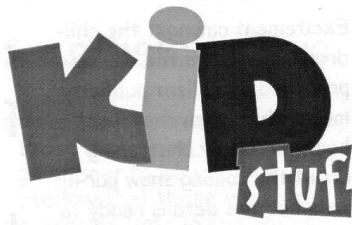
KidStuf dancers, who had grown in numbers and confidence since the last performance, through to the new youth dance group, Revelation, who brilliantly performed two numbers to music from Band With No Name. Farmer Fred made an appearance with Bob his faithful sheepdog, who helped him look after his 99 sheep while he went looking for the lost one. Also, the parable of the Missing Coin was presented in a new, relevant and up-to-date format.

The highlights of the night were the two Christian bands who performed outstandingly to an excited audience. T.B.C., a girl band, and the now-famous Band With No Name. It was definitely cool to be a Christian and adults and children alike enjoyed the performances, even if ear protectors were needed! The sight of lots of youth jumping up and down and joining in the fun was fantastic to watch.

Earlier in the week, T.B.C. had visited St James' School and done a mini concert. Lots of children had been able to jump on the school stage and show the band a couple of dances they had practised themselves for Kidstuf. They were all extremely excited and looked forward to the performance of the band later that week.

Many new people attended over the two nights, and all went away with the message of hope. It was amazing to see the two young bands sharing the gospel with their audience and relating to the kids after the shows in a such a friendly way.

There are many people involved in putting KidStuf together, of all ages and using different gifts, including performing, technical work, providing refreshments and giving a warm welcome. If you would like to be a part of the next production please contact Colin Cooper (Tel 864938) or Jan Wilson (Tel 852286).



ANN WILLIAMS

## Big Friday

Our parish hosts an array of different groups for children and youth, catering for all ages and many different interests, from football and drama to Bible study. Winepress aims to feature a different one of these groups and its activities in each edition.

Big Friday meet on (you've guessed it!) Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00pm. This youth group is for 11-18 year-olds and is open to anyone, attracting many young people who otherwise have no contact with church. At the moment we have a core membership of boys, though sadly, girls seem to be staying away.

We provide many activities, including board games; indoor football (with a soft ball, to minimise damage); table tennis and recently indoor hockey which has proved popular. We also aim to go on an outing at the end of each term. This could be bowling or even ice skating.

We have a good team of leaders - Ryan, Di, Joy, Sue, Kizzy and recently Jill. Leadership can be very tiring, but also very rewarding. With God's help and lots of patience, we build relationships with the youngsters - my favourite part of the job. Prayer is important to us, both before every meeting and at the end, setting the tone for each evening. We would also value your prayer, especially for girls to return to the group.

Recently, we stepped out in faith and took seven boys to Champion House, Edale for the weekend. The trip went down very well and was enjoyed by all. We included in the timetable short 'God Slots', introducing the gospel, which were well-received. This was a new venture for us this and needed lots of planning. Thank you to everyone who provided generous help and support, making the weekend possible.

STEVE FELLOWS

## Where Were You Last Summer?

We are blessed in our church with a growing body of young people who are committing their lives to God and actively seeking to serve him in a variety of ways. Some of their experiences will be featured over the next few editions of Winepress. Here, to start off the series, Hannah gives us an account of her time working for Spring Harvest Holidays ...

This summer, having completed my first year at university, I was privileged to be offered a job working in France at 'Camping Le Pas Opton', a holiday park owned by Spring Harvest Holidays (a sister company of Spring Harvest). I spent nine weeks in the beautiful Vendee region of France, working as a courier. Clubs are available for all ages from 0-18 with the purpose of providing entertainment and biblical input for the children/youth, while at the same time giving parents a break and an opportunity to attend morning bible study (should they wish to!). My principle responsibility was running a club for children aged 11-13 every morning.



Every afternoon, one or more activities is provided for guests. These activities range from a very French boules tournament to a typically-English football tournament; from painting and sculpting classes to 'Wacky Races', a truly unique take on school sports day - fun for all the family!

There is an evening meeting each day, which is a short service with music (lead by a professional worship leader) and a short talk by the guest speaker - an excellent and informal opportunity to spend time delving into the bible and getting closer to God.

One of the highlights of each week is the Sunday morning service followed by a street BBQ for the whole campsite, where guests gather together around some giant barbeques and eat together (and feed hungry couriers!)

The holiday park is one of the most beautiful around with excellent facilities and amenities. Participation in activities is completely optional, and many parents (mine included!) take the opportunity to completely relax and do nothing, letting their children spend the day with friends, in the knowledge that they are not in any danger.

My time in France was one of the best experiences of my life. I made so many great friends and grew so much in my faith, and of course got a pretty impressive tan! It's shocking that I still had such a great time despite living in a tent and sleeping on a camp bed for over 2 months!

Le Pas Opton is a truly excellent and safe holiday park and well worth a visit if you ask me.

HANNAH COLLARD

For more information about the holiday park, including summer job opportunities, visit [www.springharvestholidays.com](http://www.springharvestholidays.com).



# Situations Vacant

Reporters urgently needed for Winepress magazine to represent different areas of interest across the parish, forming a network of people to catch news items and feed them on to the editor. Positions vacant in the departments of Children's Work, Youth Work, Seniors, Missionary Links, Personal Testimony, LIFE Groups, Outreach and Congregation Representation.

## Job Description

- To either write, or commission others to write, one short article of around 300 words every two months, highlighting some aspect of church life within your assigned 'department'.
- To keep an ear to the ground for events which have been staged and new developments taking place.
- To ensure that all groups within the church have an opportunity to be heard.
- Writing skills welcome, but not essential, as articles can be delegated to different people or groups for each edition.

Join a team to help make Winepress into an effective channel of communication within the church, demonstrating that Whitfield Parish is a vibrant and exciting place to be.

Applications to  
[winepress@glossop.org](mailto:winepress@glossop.org)



# Notice Board

## BAPTISMS

At St. Luke's Church

25/11/07

Yasin Barker  
Jack Barker  
Katy Baasden



At St. James' Church

18/11/07

Samantha Lowe



## FUNERALS

At St Luke's Church

12/12/07  
Michael Medley

At St James' Church

11/10/07  
Violet Leeming

2/11/07  
Ernest Lawton

3/12/07  
Lesley Bunting

winepress... is a new magazine serving the Christian congregations in Whitfield Parish, Glossop (MMA 27).

It will be published every two months and distributed free of charge.

Please take only 1 copy per household to keep down wastage.

We rejoice that our local church has experienced so much growth in recent years. A multitude of dedicated groups has sprung up to cater for every aspect of Christian life, all age ranges and a whole array of interests.



With so much growth, it can be difficult to keep track of what's happening. The aim of this new-style publication is to transmit information between congregations and to keep us up to date with who's doing what, and where. Each issue will spotlight different groups, report on recent events and bring a roundup of news items.

Do you have newsworthy items from your church group or congregation for inclusion in winepress?

Submit them to [winepress@glossop.org](mailto:winepress@glossop.org)  
or phone Beverley on 862105.