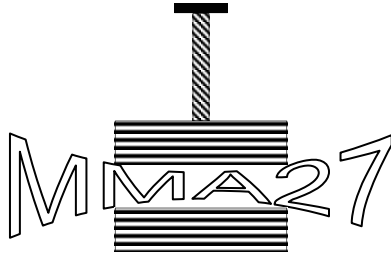


# Winepress



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# Teach Us to Pray

When the life of Jesus is looked at closely, it is clear that he had a close dependency on God. For Jesus, that close relationship with God was sustained through prayer. Jesus prayed all the time. It seemed to be as natural to him as breathing.

For many, both unbelievers and believers, prayer can be viewed as hard work; a bit of a chore, like housework or taking medicine because it is good for you. In many people's minds, prayer and enjoyment do not go readily together. I do not believe that was ever God's intention. Rather, I believe prayer should be a dynamic encounter of our whole being with God our creator.

In one part of Luke's gospel, Jesus' disciples observe him praying. Their reaction is telling as they exclaim, 'Teach us to pray'. There must have been something different about Jesus' prayers. The disciples were certainly not watching someone simply going through the motions. They wanted to pray like him. I wonder what they saw that made his prayers so different. Perhaps he was enjoying being with his Father and showing it. Perhaps there was an emotional or spiritual intensity which astounded them.

As we move into a new church year, I sense God calling us again to prayer as individuals and as churches. If Jesus needed a close dependency on God the Father to fulfil his ministry, so do we!

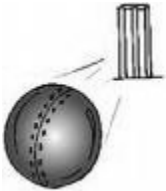


If, for you, prayer does seem just like hard work, why not come to Jesus honestly and with a humble heart and say with the disciples, 'Teach me to pray'. I am sure he will readily respond. Some of the closeness to God the Father that he enjoyed could be yours too. Perhaps, for you, prayer could become less like a merry-go-round and more like a roller coaster!

COLIN COOPER

# An English Summer - That's Not Cricket

As we say farewell to our English summer, we may wonder what happened to all those halcyon days that we remember from our youth. Of course there were wet summers then too, but this one in 2008 will take some beating. Roll on next year!



Whitfield Men's Ministry decided at the start of the season to play cricket. Alas, the weather intervened and the 20-20 match had to be cancelled. This was a pity as there were enough people interested to have two eleven-a-side teams. During the summer we tried to rearrange the fixture, to no avail.

Are we going to give up? We are not! In order to get in form for next summer, we are arranging a winter indoor practice session (venue being sought) and we will be ready to challenge some of the other local teams. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Tim Baker or David Fennell; see them in St James' or contact them via the parish address list. Perhaps we could have a youth team and a veteran's team (I know which one I qualify for). Let's make 2009 the year to put Whitfield Parish on the local sports map. You never know who God will send our way.



The Men's Ministry has not been bowled out in other areas. We started the year with a visit to the Manchester Climbing School. We have held our normal quarterly Men's Breakfasts and a special one for Hope '08. As the year progressed, we have enjoyed playing squash, clay pigeon shooting, Scalextric Dads and Kids, a summer walk up Bleaklow and Crown Green bowling. As I write, we are looking forward to the Lionhearts weekend (19/20 September). Looking ahead, we are going to the Velodrome in Manchester on Saturday 18 October and have an archery session scheduled and ... well, men, have you any more suggestions?

STEVE MITCHELL

# Our Journey to Glossop



We arrived in Glossop on the 11th of June this year to a wonderful welcome, a beautiful new home and the start of an exciting new season in our lives. It was a new beginning for all of us: for Richard, working at St James' and St Luke's, and for the whole family, settling into new schools, groups and, of course, the two churches. It was also the end of the long process of Richard's selection and training for ordained Anglican ministry.

Both of us have been involved in church leadership for many years, particularly for twelve years at St Thomas' in Sheffield. Richard worked there for eight years, developing ministry and mission among children, inner city communities and students (not all at the same time!). We both went to Sheffield University. Kathryn studied Archaeological Science and Richard Biblical Studies. While we met in the early days of our courses, we only started going out at the end of university and married later.

Kathryn grew up moving around regularly, as her parents were Salvation Army Officers and her father retrained as a Methodist minister. His work took them all over the country, including five years in Denton, Manchester. Richard grew up near Thatcham in Berkshire until the age of eleven, when his family moved to Tunbridge Wells.

Our years in Sheffield were important to both of us. They were a time of personal growth and change and produced a growing commitment to the mission of God in the world today. We lived for five years in Firth Park in the north of Sheffield, where both Emily (now 4) and Joannah (now 2) were born. We were immensely privileged to start a new congregation there (called 'Grassroots') which is still going today. We were involved in a wide range of projects, including running 'Boulder Gang' at New

Wine for two years, various mission trips abroad and many other exciting opportunities.

However, by 2005, it became clear God was telling us to move on. After looking at some other mission opportunities, we knew it was right to consider ordination in the Anglican Church. Richard was accepted for ministry in early 2006 and in September that year we left Sheffield for Richard to train at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford for two years.

Our time in Oxford was quite turbulent, as the college was going through some very painful changes. Richard enjoyed his studies, but found college life quite frustrating. Kathryn chaired the committee running the spouses' group, 'Contact', for a year and did a fantastic job helping Contact change and develop. Through 2007, we began to consider where God might be calling us after college. Everyone who's ordained in the Anglican Church has to do a 'curacy' - a first training post. The chance to come to Glossop came up and as we visited and prayed, it seemed like just the right place for us. So far, we've been proved right!



As Richard is curate, we'll be in Glossop for about four years, during which time Richard will complete his training. We're looking forward to getting involved in both churches and seeing what new things might spring up while we're here. Emily starts in Reception at St Luke's school in the autumn, Joannah will go to pre-school in 2009 and as a family we're settling into our new home and life here.

So, that's our journey to Glossop! Before we finish, however, we must again say a big thank you to everyone who helped prepare for our arrival - it was such a joy to move into a house that had been made ready for us. Thank you. And thank you to everyone who's been so friendly since we've moved. We reckon God thinks Glossop is a pretty special place - and we do too!

RICHARD AND KATHRYN ENGLAND

# African Adventure

For those who don't know, I have just spent the last four and a half months in South Africa doing volunteer work. Although I went with Oasis Trust, once I arrived I was in the care of Project Gateway. This is a social outreach organization run by the churches in Pietermaritzburg, its aim being to meet the needs of the poor and empower the disadvantaged.

It is based in an old prison, which was bizarre to be living and working in at first, but didn't take long to get used to. The prison is often described as 'from darkness into light' and it is only through Christ that a place of such darkness can be used to uplift in the way that it does.

There are nine projects under the umbrella of Project Gateway:

- A health clinic for TB and HIV/AIDS
- Esther House - a women's refuge
- Grace House - a pregnancy crisis centre
- Gateway Christian School
- Gateway School of Fashion
- Duduza - a project to re-house orphaned children
- Sunset Overnight Shelter
- Rural Home Industries - teaching basic cooking, sewing etc.
- Enterprise Development - teaching basic business skills.

Project Gateway is also involved in many other schemes within the city, in which I had the opportunity to get involved. I was in a team of seven, all living in the prison cells. We each worked in different projects around Gateway, which gave us insight into a lot of the work being done.

I worked mainly in Gateway Christian School where I helped with the administration, the tuck shop and taught some lessons. I was so worried going into teaching as I had never done any before and was just left to it. Yet God was with me the entire time and not only did we have fun in the lessons but Izzy (another member

of my team) and I managed to put on a show in only three weeks!

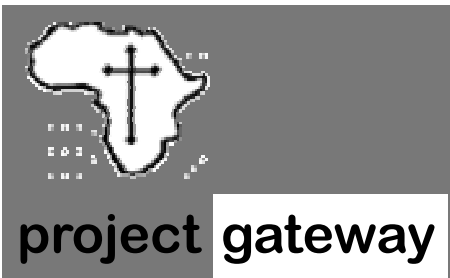
Although there were times of complete stress, it was a life-changing experience. There were some times when I felt completely out of my depth, yet those are the times that I will remember the most because I could feel God taking over and guiding me through.

Leaving was absolutely horrible. It's funny how attached you can get to prison cells - not one of us wanted to leave them. I am excited about what God has in store next for me and I feel a lot more prepared for university. I definitely have the 'Africa bug' now and I am already trying to plan when I can next go back.

JENNY CUDDY

I hope that Jenny's story of her time in South Africa will be an encouragement to other young people. For anyone considering a gap year before or after university, there are many exciting projects around the world in need of volunteers.

[www.oasistrust.org/volunteering](http://www.oasistrust.org/volunteering) is a good place to investigate the opportunities available both in this country and abroad, with placements which last from just 2 weeks to a year. Professionals looking to take a career break are also needed to fill international placements of 5 months to 2 years duration.



[www.projectgateway.co.za](http://www.projectgateway.co.za) gives details of the work being done by Project Gateway in Pietermaritzburg and information for volunteers. The organization also welcomes prayer and donations.

# Karibuni

The vision for a toddler-friendly café grew from an idea of Terry Clark and a group of mums in his Monday morning LIFE group. We recognised the need for a place to meet and chat and for those caring for young children to be able to relax in a child-friendly environment. Through prayer, God enabled those who are now the Karibuni host team to share this vision.

Team in place and coffee cups at the ready, we stepped out in faith, not knowing what was ahead of us or if anyone would even come. Karibuni first opened its doors in June. I cannot express how blown away I was when people actually turned up!



In just a few short weeks Karibuni has grown at a remarkable and unbelievable rate. I am filled with amazement at how God continues to bless us as we see more new faces every week, so much so that on a Wednesday morning the inside of St Luke's Church looks like the pushchair department in Mothercare!

There is a soft, safe baby area where mums happily relax on the sofas, within view of children playing in the toddler area and at the craft tables. Each week there is a Fairtrade stall, freshly brewed coffee and homemade cakes. September will see us being open for longer because people just don't want to leave.



We thank you for your prayers and ask that they continue. I personally feel blessed and privileged to be part of the Karibuni team and to be able to see God at work.

ALISON TAGG

'Karibuni' means 'Welcome' in Swahili.  
It is open from 11am on Wednesdays in St Luke's Room.

# Still Working for God at 80!

In August 2007 I was shaken by a series of accidents and one particularly frightening fall. Also, the deterioration in my heart condition had made climbing the stairs difficult. All this made me realise that I could no longer stay at my house on Longcough Drive. Ruth Bennett told me about the refurbishment of Whitfield House and then brought me to see the new flats. I knew almost immediately that this was where God wanted me to be and I moved in on the of 18th April 2008, by which time I had had my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

I quickly felt at home and made friends and have been aware of the many church members who have prayed for my witness. God still brings people in from outside and that part of my ministry with them continues here, as in the past.

**I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. Acts 20:24**

I have also prayed with some of the other residents; one in particular comes to mind. I had not been well one week and was asked if I felt any better. I answered that sometimes when the pain of osteoporosis etc. was really bad I longed for my heavenly home. She asked me what I meant, so I responded that those whose trust is in Jesus have eternal life. I showed her some verses from John's Gospel and prayed with her. She told her friend, who also listened to the Gospel and asked me to pray for her and her sister.

It is an encouragement to see some St James' folk visiting Whitfield House on the second Monday of the month, when we gather at 1.30pm for a service and time of fellowship. In particular I would mention June Cant who, like me, has 'down-sized' and in our own ways we both seek to bless those around us in this place.

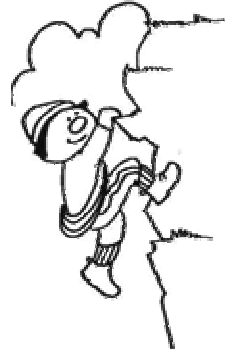
BETTY WILLIAMS

# The Best Ten Days of the Year

Having heard excited and happy snippets about CB4 from both Barney and Peter for almost 10 years, this year I got in on the act by going as a cook, and it did not disappoint. While as a cook much of the activity went on where I could not see it, the fun, exuberance, healthy insanity and spiritual growth were evident every time the members and leaders were around.

The members, aged 14-18, slept in small dorms, each with its own leaders. This gave every young person an adult with whom they could build an individual relationship. I was really impressed with the thoughtful planning and building upon the theme that was evident in the dorm and main focus meetings.

During the day, optional activities included the energetic (eg climbing Snowdon); the manic (eg sports day - I finally got to see the plastic sheeting which is transformed into a 20m downhill slide with the addition of washing up liquid, water and a rubber ring); the energetically manic (eg raft building); the creative (eg banner making) and the thoughtful (eg discussion groups designed to encourage personal and spiritual growth). Evening activities ranged from chilling out to 'Strictly Come Prancing' (a Salsa evening).



As cooks, we spent most time with the Junior Leaders (JLs), 19-20 year-olds who assisted with serving food, washing up and cleaning tasks as well as joining in with many activities and having some training towards becoming leaders themselves. This enlivened the cooks' days, gave us much fun and created the occasional near miss - we almost had chocolate sauce poured over the main course at one meal!

The leadership training was unexpected but evident, with overall leaders seeking to develop leadership skills in young adults - from JLs learning to lead dorms and activities to doing these independently but with backup when needed.

I recommend CB4 to all the youth in the parish and their parents. My observation was that it gives young people a safe place to start spreading their spiritual wings and be Christians without family around. Being with the same people for 10 days with Christian activities and teaching made masks almost impossible, giving opportunities for real spiritual growth. Towards the end of camp it was common to see young people in deep conversation with leaders, considering key issues in their lives. As well as which - as Barney and Peter have told me many times - 'Colwyn Bay is the best ten days of the year'.

RHIANNON SINGLETON



# Notice Board

## BAPTISMS

### At St. James'

- July 20 Joshua Dylan  
Lawrence
- Aug 3 Jackson Oakes
- Aug 3 Kenzie Oakes

### At St. Luke's

- July 20 Olivier Gabrielle  
Allen
- July 20 Amelia Grace Allen

## WEDDING

### At St. James'

- Aug 8 Lee Andrew Beasley  
& Jerrienne Parks

## FUNERALS

### At St James'

- July 21 Mary Alice Boak
- July 23 Dennis Morgan
- Aug 5 Joyce Warhurst
- Aug 8 Eric Thomston

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

It is 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 publication is to transmit information between congregations and to keep everyone 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.



## We need your input...



Do you have newsworthy items from your congregation for inclusion in winepress? Would you like to report on what your group is doing, or would you like to recommend it to others? Have you an inspiring story to tell?

Please submit articles to [winepress@glossop.org](mailto:winepress@glossop.org) or phone Beverley on 862105.