

## ENews Issue 68 January 2021

stretjesus2012@gmail.com

www.streetjesus.org.uk

Street Jesus News: Welcome to the January edition of our e-news.

Firstly we hope that you have all had an enjoyable Christmas and that you have all experienced the peace and joy that can only be found in Christ. We look forward to a new year with anticipation after what has

been a traumatic year for many. A Brexit deal has been agreed with the European union and a number of vaccines are in the pipeline to help us control the Covid 19 pandemic. In both cases there may still be bumpy periods where things do not fit into place as we would like but we continue to pray for Gods will to be done. We do not always understand why these things are happening because we only see dimly as if through a cloudy mirror but we put our trust in him regardless.



It has been great to see many churches streaming their carol services on-line and initiatives like doorstep carols have been very popular. Despite not being able to meet in Church in the usual way ,creative ways are being found for us to keep in contact.

We were very pleased recently to lend two of our Gazebos to the Christmas unwrapped carol service held on Kingston field Woodbridge and organised by Woodbridge churches together. It was a very wet



evening but amazingly close to 300 people attended. Each Gazebo presented part of the Christmas story culminating with the manger scene in the marquee tent. A Massive screen showed pre-recorded carols, bible readings and talks. It was a wonderful evening and clearly a lot of hard work had gone into organising it. It would be lovely if a similar event could be organised next year. Its good

for people to see churches working together because a common perception, confirmed in some of our street conversations is that the church is divided. The Church pooling its talents and resources to present the person of Jesus Christ outside of the Church walls in the heart of the community is great to see.

Every cloud has a silver lining so sang David Essex . Surveys in recent years have made depressing reading with regard to statistics and

Christian faith with a decline in people believing in God and a reduction in Church attendance steadily taking place since the 1960's. The number of people identifying as Christian has reduced in all recent national census. A recent you gov survey confirmed overall that this trend has continued. It has been confirmed that the over 60. age group are the most 'Religious' 36% 40-59 yrs-26% and 25-39



yrs-19%. It was hoped that with the event of Covid with people coming under an existential threat and understanding just how fragile

#### Street Jesus News:

our existence is, that people would look to God for comfort and support and that more would question what life is all about. Particularly as there has been a reported increase in people watching online services. There has been lots of anecdotal evidence that people have come to faith because of the effects of the pandemic. This survey would suggest otherwise except for this silver lining.



Generation Z ie those aged between 18-24 have shown an increase in those who believe in God. 23% in a group that in recent times has been the less religious. It is believed that the event of social media has made it easier for young people to connect with those of a similar mind set and that this age group are simply more tolerant of those who are different.

This age group are particularly more interested in environmental issues and racial and gender equality. This is confirmed by many university youth workers who report that because many have not been brought up in Christian households and religious education in schools has become more diverse and relative, they are more open to discover what church is really about and have less preconceived ideas. We are encouraged that emerging young people seem more open minded, are under less peer group pressure, even in the face of a media that tend to marginalize or denigrate Christian faith. We need to be cautious when it comes to statistics but if true this is encouraging and presents us with an opportunity to share Jesus. The general figures remain shocking and our desire is surely sharpened to make the most of every opportunity to evangelise. In our bible reading it speaks of us having a spirit of power rather than fear and timidity.

I have recently spent time unable to work due to a combination of ill heath and the effects of the pandemic. When feeling better i decided

to start a de-cluttering and recycling business which has been a lot of fun. As part of this i am meeting a lot of new people and have been able to have a number of new conversations about Jesus.

One statement I have heard a few times recently is' Jesus didn't actually exist, he has just been made up

Jesus didn't actually exist, he has just been made up in books'. Even a very young family member expressed this recently and it made me wonder where he had heard it from. We find in our ministry that we have spells where the same question comes up repeatedly. There is actually quite a lot of written evidence that Jesus existed in history and

even Richard Dawkins the celebrity atheist was forced to admit as much having previously put forward that view. The four gospels were written by eye witnesses or people who had interviewed eye witnesses to the events at that time and the bibles which we hold in our hands today are remarkably similar to those early fragment of scripture. Historians at the time like Josephus and Tacitus also made a record of Jesus existence. Its interesting that accounts of other historical figures are rarely questioned in this way but taken as fact.

I have been reading recently about research that has been taking

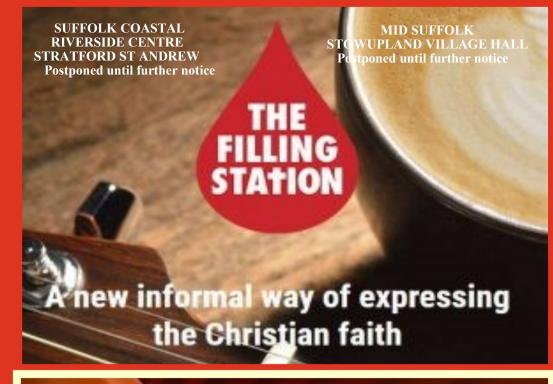


place in the Netherlands relating to spiritual practices including mindfulness and meditation. It concudes that the path to enlightenment for most practitioners has become a major ego trip even though these practices are designed to encourage humility. This is maybe inevitable when we embark on any

DID JESUS EXIST?

path of self help. Christian teaching is unique in that it is based on Gods grace rather than our own efforts. Any gifts that we may have ore solely down to him. Praise the Lord! Happy new year Graham









Trimley St Martin Memorial hall - Worship evening Postponed until further notice





www.goodnews-paper.co.uk







www.facebook.com/SuffolkCMA/



inspirecounselling.org.









# PRAYER Every Tuesday 7pm Kelsale Village Hall IP172PB

Contact Paul or Mandy Weekes on 01728-604053

## **Healing Prayer Service**

1st Sunday of the month at 6.30pm





Information Network

# Network & SUFFOLK

- \*Love your neighbour
- \*One million bricks
- \*Christian aid Christmas appeal.
- \*Sing along with Radio Suffolk
- \*Independent faith engagement review.

https://networksuffolk.org.uk/

### January at the Farm

Date	Event	Details
4th Jan @ 10	Simply Pray	A time to pray for our communities to be blessed in 2021
8th Jan @ 10— 12.30	New Year Retreat	A focus on listening for God's voice as we start a New Year
10th Jan @ 18.30	Farm Praise	An all age time of praise and worship- fun and relaxed
11th Jan @ 10	Simply Pray	A prayer focus on the care agencies supporting those struggling with men- tal heath issues
15th Jan @ 10	Bible Journalling with Leanne	A creative, bible focused journalling workshop .
18th Jan @ 10	Simply Pray	A prayer focus for protection of our church leaders
22nd Jan @ 10— 12.30	A study morning—The Battle of our Mind	A biblical study of the attack and de- fence battles within our minds.
25th Jan @ 10	Simply Pray	A prayer focus for wisdom and discern ment for our local and national gov- ernment
29th Jan @ 10	Bible Club	A study of Psalm 51 with times for per sonal reflection & open discussion.

I WILL MAKE A WAY
IN THE WILDERNESS &
RIVERS IN THE DESERT.

The Farm by the Water







The Farm by the Water
Stuice Farm
Kirton
Soffelk
1P10 00F
Phoos: 01394 448914
Email:
thefarmbythewater®gmail.com

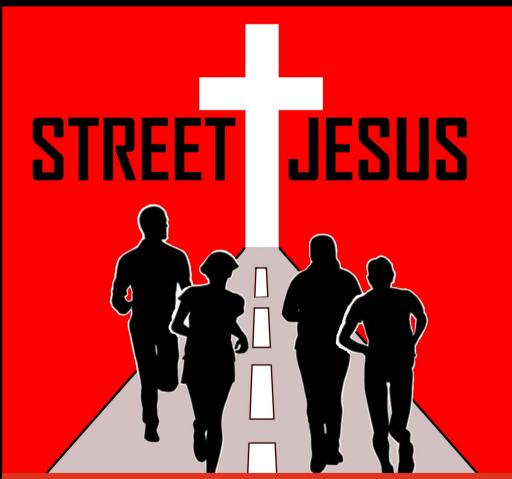




#### CHURCHES THAT RUN ALPHA COURSES

HOPE CHURCH IPSWICH - www.hopeipswich.co.uk BURLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH IPSWICH Tel- 01473-259271 TRIMLEY ST MARTIN CHURCH Tel 01394-200406 ST JOHNS CHURCH WOODBRIDGE 01394-383162 COLCHESTER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH IPSWICH -01473-290115 ST AUGUSTINES CHURCH - IPSWICH- 01473 723960

Outreach



Due to the Coronavirus pandemic We have suspended our Street outreaches until such time as we prayerfully believe we should do so.

# tearfund

www.tearfund.org

**Fundraisers** 



#### **BLESSING JARS**

Supporting the Beehive Nakuru Kenya A great place to put your loose change in and say a blessing at the end of the day. To obtain a jar please e-mail thepaellalady@gmail.com or Pam@jenkins-net.co.uk



#### BEEHIVE FUNDRAISERS



£488 has been raised through our blessings jars so far. Our grateful thanks to all who have contributed



## GUITAR CONCERT All Saints Church Wickham Market Saturday November 10th 3-5pm £406 was raised



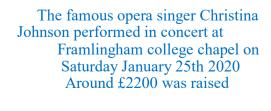
#### QUIZ NIGHT Seckford Hall hotel Date to be confirmed



For details streetjesus2012@gmail.com or-thepaellalady@gmail.com



The famous opera singer Christina Johnson performed in concert at
St Augustine's church Ipswich
Saturday November 23rd 7.30pm
£1467.50





Wickham Market All Saints Woodbridge Methodist Church Melton –St Andrews church-

Postponed until further notice

## HOME, BUT NOT ALONE

Connecting volunteers and vulnerable people in Suffolk

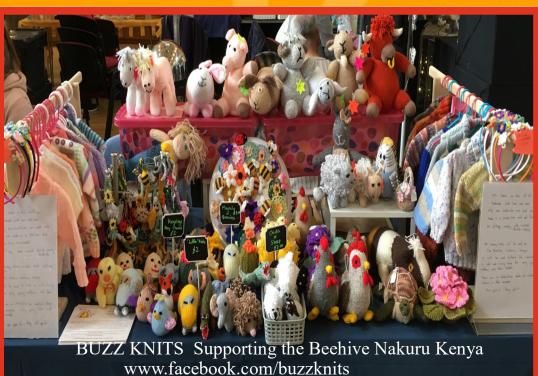
Tribe - Volunteer

APP TO VOLUNTEER



Need a volunteer's help? Call: 0800 876 6926

#COVID19SUFFOLK

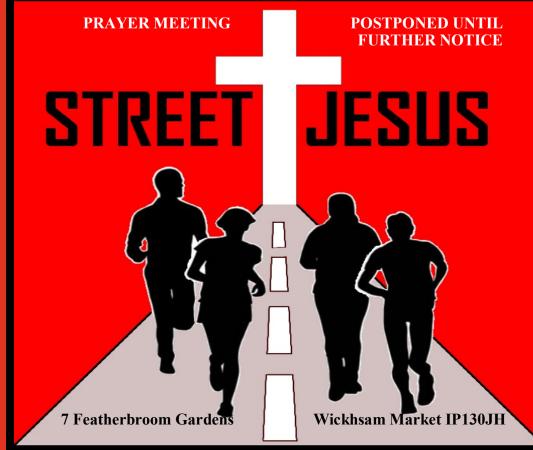




CROSSROADS-Saxmundham High Street THE RUNWAY-St Michaels and all Angels Martlesham OPEN DOORS -All Saints Wickham Market-Every Friday morning.

HUB COMMUNITY CAFÉ-St Johns Woodbridge - Every Monday morning 10-12





Gallery



Rob with Doggie who is being stroked by a young visitor to our stall at the Ipswich music day 2019

CD of the month

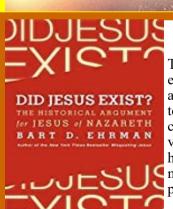


CD of the month

Urban Rescue

Wild Heart

Book of the month



#### BOOK OF THE MONTH

This is a question that pops up every now and again in our evangelistic work. Increasingly the range of questions we get asked is getting wider and its important that we have answers to the questions that are being asked of us. Ehrman confronts the question, "Did Jesus exist at all?" Ehrman vigorously defends the historical Jesus, identifies the most historically reliable sources for best understanding Jesus' mission and message, and offers a compelling portrait of the person at the heart of the Christian tradition.

Newsletter



To receive our monthly newsletter
The Beehive Buzz

Contact- sarah@aboutmedia.co.uk

## THEOS

Think tank on religion and society

Nurturing social cohesion.
Reflections for Christmas
Can Liberalism ever 'Get' religion.
The search for the secular Jesus
Councils should use Churches
Europe push to restore Jesus.

www.theosthinktank.co.uk

Gatherings



New Wine Cancelled 2020 www.new-wine.org Spring Harvest Cancelled 2020 www.springharvest.org Big Church day out Cancelled 2020 www.bigchurchdayout.com **Keswick Cancelled 2020** Keswickministries.org Greenbelt Cancelled 2020 www.greenbelt.org.uk Word Alive Cancelled 2020 www.wordaliveevent.org Davids tent 2020 - August 28th-31st www.davidstent.net **Ilsong Conference** Cancelled 2020 www.hillsong.com Newday Cancelled 2020 www.newday.co.uk

Our Partners

## Parting Seas

www.parting-seas.co.uk partingseas2013@gmail.com



SUPPORTING CHILD MUMS AND THEIR BABIES AT THE BEEHIVE KENY

#### Bible reading

I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you. This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gifts God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity but of power. love and self discipline. So never be ashamed to tell anyone. to tell others about our Lord and don't be ashamed of me either even though I am, in prison for him. With the strength God gives you be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the good news. For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this not because we deserved it but because that was his plan from before the beginning of time, to show us his grace through Christ Jesus. And now he has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus our saviour. He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the good news. And God chose me to be a preacher, an apostle and teacher of this good news. That is why I am suffering here in prison. But I am not ashamed in it for I know the one in whom I trust and I am sure that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of his return. Hold on to the pattern of wholesome teaching you learned from me a pattern shaped by the love that you have in Christ Jesus. Through the power of the Holy spirit who lives within us carefully guard the precious truth that has been entrusted in you. 2 Timothy 5-14.

Prayer

The seed is Christ's
The Granary is Christ's.
In the Granary of God
may we be gathered.
The sea is Christs
the fishes are Christs.
In the nets of God
May we all meet

Quote to note

The modern world detests authority but worships relevence. Our Christian conviction is that the bible is both authority and relevance and that the secret of both is in Jesus Christ. John Stott

Please get

If you have a heart for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with others and would like to become involved with our project then please contact us for more information. If you would like us to promote any of your Church events we will do our best to include them in our e news. If you would like to contribute to e-news with any information or recommendations such as a book, music C D, film, article, a prayer, or a bible verse then please e mail us on streetjesus2012@ gmail.com. Our next meeting will be announced after the current Government restrictions are lifted.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for showing interest in the Street Jesus project. If you do not wish to receive our e news or would like more information about the project please e mail streetjesus 2012@gmail.com