

# The Vine

Family News from Dewsbury and  
Mirfield Evangelical Churches

Summer '13

## Crytoscopophilia

Take a Peek in on our Church Family!

**S**ay it slowly: cryt-os-co-po-philia!. Do you have it? At the risk of making you put this magazine down the moment you pick it up, what with being faced with a word like that, I'd like to suggest that you may well have it. I do. And unfortunately a visit to your GP won't help because crytoscopophilia means 'the urge to look through people's windows as you pass by.'


I'm not a serial offender! But I am prone to a nasty flare up when walking past a house, after dark, where the inhabitants have left the curtains wide

open and the lights on. There is something about the glow of the light spilling out into the street that just makes you turn your head. Unfortunately crytoscopophilia is as common as the common cold, and probably about as hard to treat!

Usually there isn't much to see of course. Unless your preferred method of watching TV is through a piece of double glazing, without any sound whilst stand-

**"We want anyone to take a look at the Christian faith"**

ing on a pavement (this pasttime is much easier now TVs are often the size of small vehicles!). But occasionally you see something that makes you wish you were on the inside rather than the outside: a warm fire on a cold night, a group of friends enjoying each other's company, a family sitting down to a hearty meal.

Well, we don't mind if you suffer from crytoscopophilia. In fact, we encourage it. That's why we've produced this little newsletter. Of course, it is for our church members, those on the inside but what we really want is for anyone to be able to take a little look in at the Christian faith and our churches. So don't be embarrassed - take a look inside! And if you want a closer look do get in touch with us using the details on the back. 

*Ian Goodson (DEC)*

**FIND US ONLINE!**  
[www.dewsbury-church.org.uk](http://www.dewsbury-church.org.uk)  
[www.mecgoodnews.org](http://www.mecgoodnews.org)

# COMING UP!

## Quench

This month sees the arrival of Quench week at Dewsbury Evangelical Church [22-29 June], a week of community involvement and outreach. Highlights include Cafe Quench, a Pie 'n' Peas & Quiz Night, a Breakfast BBQ, Picnic in the Park, a night with Super League rugby player Jamie Jones Buchanan and a Seniors' Fish & Chip Lunch. For more info see [quenchdewsbury.wordpress.com](http://quenchdewsbury.wordpress.com)

## Day by the Sea

DEC has a day trip to Bridlington planned for 13th July. For further info call 07817 213660.

## Wakefield Plant

DEC is investigating a possible church plant in Wakefield. Do get in touch with Ian Goodson with ideas, info and suggestions ([itgoodson@gmail.com](mailto:itgoodson@gmail.com))

## Open Morning

Ever wanted to know what really goes on behind those doors at Mirfield Evangelical Church on Wellhouse Lane? Come along and find out, with exhibitions and free tea & coffee. Saturday 8th June, 10 am – 12 pm.

## Family Fun on the Farm

Join MEC at Green Farm [Clifton] on Saturday 29th June, 2-6 pm, for fun and games for all the family and a short message on the Christian faith. Tea provided. Free, but please phone to book a place [01924 499189].

## Introducing God

Want to get to know God personally? He invites us into a living relationship with himself. MEC is running a free, informal course with DVD talks and open discussion. Beginning soon. Phone for details [01924 499189].



## "WE WAS ROBBED"

### Church members rally round to help burgled family

**O**n 11th August 2011 whilst on holiday, we received a phone call from our neighbour to say he had just discovered a man attempting to walk off with our lawn mower! I suggested to our neighbour that he better check that no-one had been in the house, which was when we discovered that the house, as well as the shed, had been burgled.

As we were in Northern Ireland at the time, it was over 24 hours before we arrived home. The police had already searched for fingerprints and also warned us about the offensive graffiti on the walls. We drove down the M6 wondering what we would find, with the horrible feeling that others had been ransacking our house and pillaging our possessions.

On arriving home, we were greeted with an avalanche of offers of help from our friends in Dewsbury Evangelical Church where we are members. We were able to leave our three girls with one family while we assessed the damage and had an initial clean up. Another couple came and helped tidy up, applying numerous chemicals to the walls to remove or at least make illegible the graffiti.

Someone else arrived to help, bringing with them a cake to encourage us! It wasn't long before the house was made liveable again. In the days following this, there were many more offers of help such as meals and taking the children out. This allowed us to get on with the tidying, sorting and speaking to the police. For all this help we were really grateful.

As we reflected on the unpleasantness of being burgled, we thought about Jesus' words: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). These words reminded us that Jesus tells us

to be realistic about life in this world – there will be trouble, which includes burglary and all that goes with it – the invasion, vandalism, theft, inconvenience, hassle, worry, fear and insults. These words also encouraged us as they reminded us that even in the midst of trouble, we could have peace,

and take heart because Jesus has overcome the world by his death and resurrection. Because of this it is great to be able to look forward to living with him in a world without sin or suffering.



Daniel Grimwade (DEC)

**"even in the midst of trouble we could have peace"**

# WHAT ON EARTH IS AN "EVANGELICAL"?

**J**argon; it can be very handy, but also a bit of a pain! And if there is one group who are good at jargon... it's Christians! But there is some jargon that is actually really helpful, which when understood, packages longer meanings into a single word. However, these can also be a cause for misunderstanding or teasing. Maybe some of you have come across it like:

"Pastor? What flavour is he?"  
"Cheese and onion!"

The church I grew up in (where my dad is a cheese and onion!), used to have above the door the words 'Brighthouse Evangelical'. You can imagine some of the youth coming in and out of the building saying, "What's ev-an-jelly-cal?" No, it's not a new flavour! It is a word which we can see comes from the Bible. "Now these are


the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers." Ep.4v11 Here the word evangelist simply means 'a giver of good news'. Again we see it helpfully used in Acts 21:8 where the apostle Paul stays at the

**"an evangelist is one who has a mission to tell people the Good News about Jesus"**

home of 'Philip the Evangelist'. Philip was a successful teacher of the Good News of Jesus. He had come across a man reading the Old Testament book of Isaiah. He stopped to explain to him the Good News about Jesus, using the very book that was being read, the book of Isaiah. You can read about this in Acts 8:35b. So an evangelist is

one who has a mission to tell people the Good News about Jesus.

"What's the Good News, then?" you may ask. It is to have faith in the Lord Jesus, trusting in him for the forgiveness of your sins so that you can have a relationship with God. This is not something that we can achieve on our own, or work at; it is a precious gift!

So what about the word 'evangelical'? This is simply an extension of the above, and it became a label given to the churches and believers back in the 1700s. These groups of 'evangelicals' were known for believing in the Good News of Jesus or 'Gospel', and proclaiming it. Whatever church you go to, or whatever label you may choose, I think all Christians should be 'evangelical' in their thinking? Christ has freed you if you trust in him! So in other words, to be 'evangelical' means simply to be believers and proclaim the Good News which is, "...Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..." 1Timothy 1v15. 

*Nathan Bowers (MEC)*

## TERRY'S STORY: NO REGRETS!


**I**'ve lived in Dewsbury most of my life. My eldest son Andrew first asked me to go to a church service with him and my wife Susan at our local chapel. He was six and my wife had taken him to chapel so he could learn the same things she had learnt when she was young.

I went along with them about once a month. Later we began going to Dewsbury Evangelical Church. At this stage it would have been very easy for us to turn our backs on God. We had lost our youngest son and I was also

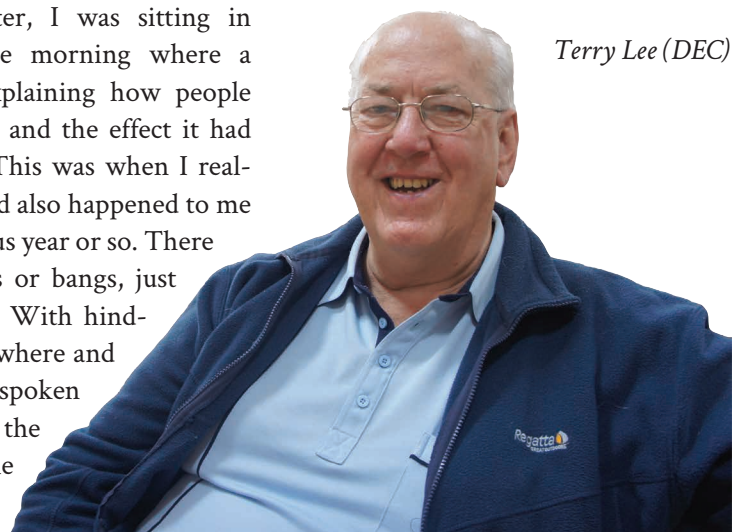
out of work for the fifth time. But it was only now that the Bible made more sense to me. I saw how God had given his only Son, Jesus, so that I could have my sins forgiven if I was sorry for them and asked for forgiveness.

Six months later, I was sitting in a church coffee morning where a speaker was explaining how people were converted and the effect it had on their lives. This was when I realised that this had also happened to me over the previous year or so. There were no flashes or bangs, just an inner peace. With hindsight, I can see where and when God had spoken to me through the Bible and the witness of vari-

ous people over this time (to whom I am always indebted).

This is just the brief version of that time and what happened to me some thirty years ago. I have no regrets about being a Christian. I only wish I had become a Christian earlier! 

*Terry Lee (DEC)*





## A QUICK CUPPA WITH POSTMAN PETE

**Year you were born:** 1958

**Occupation:** Postman and Maths Tutor.

**How long have you had your current jobs?** Six years and seven years respectively.

**Marital status; to whom and how long?** To Dawn for thirty-one years.

**Any kids?** Five (and no more please!) – Jeremy, Timothy, Stephanie, Ben and Miriam.

**An enjoyable childhood memory:** Long summer holidays – surfing in Cornwall and playing tennis.

**Favourite childhood book:** Enid Blyton's adventure stories – probably the Castle of Adventure.

**Favourite teenage music:** T-Rex and glam rock I suppose – still like it but it's been surpassed, obviously, by the Eagles.

**Life changing/impacting book:** The Bible is by far and away the dominant book for me as a Christian; challenging, provoking, convicting, instructing, encouraging

and so personal in God talking to me – amazing! In secular realms, The Lord of The Rings is a very deeply thought out and fascinating world with interesting characters and ultimate triumph of good over evil.

**When did you become a Christian?** 1978

**How long have you been a member at DEC?** 33 years

**Favourite place:** At home with my wife or, even better, with her in the Lake District.

**Who would you most like to invite**

**round for tea?** The Eagles or the Queen

**Greatest achievement:** Winning the school cross country race – or surviving three years teaching in the classroom!

**Any hobbies?** If only there were time! I Would be walking, reading, woodwork, jigsaw puzzles, cycling... Can I count DIY?

**A recent embarrassing moment:** I have an enormous catalogue – where would you like me to start and how long have you got?

**Pet hate/bugbear:** Taxi drivers.

**Favourite food & drink:** Anything that Dawn makes followed by strong, ground, black coffee.

**Most challenging moment:** Starting to teach in a classroom.

**Greatest lesson learnt:** Apart from you shouldn't teach in a classroom! - The greatest lesson I have learnt in my Christian life, is that I still haven't learnt many of the lessons I should have learnt by now. Very frustrating, but indicative of how the Lord reminds me that I need His forgiveness so much.

**Favourite film:** A bit restrictive, how about Lord of the Rings, the Terminator Trilogy, Capricorn One, Apollo 13, Deja Vu for starters. 🍷

### Dewsbury Evangelical Church

**Morning Meeting:** Sunday, 10:30am  
at Heckmondwike Scout Centre, WF16 0NW

**Evening Meeting:** Sunday, 6:00pm

**Good Newz Club:** Thursday, 6:30pm

**Jolly Tots:** Friday, 10:00am

**11-14's:** Friday, 8:00pm

**Conversation Club, English Language Support:**  
Saturday, 10:30am

Dewsbury Evangelical Church  
Crackenedge Lane, Dewsbury WF13 1RB

### Mirfield Evangelical Church

**Morning Service:** Sunday, 10:45am

**Evening Service:** Sunday, 6:30pm

**Fish Club (ages 4-7):** Tuesday, 3:45pm

**Choozdi Chillout (ages 7-11):** Tuesday, 6:30pm

**Regenerate (ages 11-14):** Thursday, 7:15pm

**Jolly Tots:** Thursday, 9:45am

Mirfield Evangelical Church  
Wellhouse Lane, Mirfield WF14 0AN