



Who are you?

Paul Wheelhouse

What family do you have?

My wife, Karen, Bethany 7, Lewis 4.

What do you do?

Half the time I am the Diocesan Youth Officer, Half the time Chaplain to Trinity School in Carlisle (which I am told is the largest state secondary school in the country)

What other career/job would you have liked to try?

I can't imagine doing anything else, but either a chef or a physiotherapist.

How do you relax?

Relax? When I can I go up mountains and down caves. To totally "turn off" I watch films. Although all these things also connect into my work. I have to do something, doing nothing makes me think of things, and I don't relax.

What is your favourite possession?

Everyone says I am gadget mad, especially technology and outdoors. I couldn't live without my palm computer You should have seen me in the floods with no power, it was so bad I resorted to tidying my office. I have a favourite jacket for outdoor pursuit called a "Buffalo", anyone into the outdoors would understand.

What is your favourite food?

I lived for 14 years in Bradford so it has to be proper curry. Ideally you need to find a restaurant that is aimed at eastern tastes. The food is not as strong but has much more flavour. However anyone who feeds me mushrooms will be a friend for life.

What is your favourite place?

Probably the Yorkshire Dales. Too many to choose from, but the area around Ingleborough is fantastic, both above and below ground.

What is your favourite book?

I think I have favourite authors rather than books such as Douglas Adams, Stephen Lawhead. At least these are the two that I have read nearly every word they have written.

What is your favourite film?

Too many to choose from. Blues Brothers is an old favourite, as is any Monty Python and Black Adder (sorry I know it is TV not film but I can just about recite every word in all four series).

What is your favourite piece of music?

Again too many. I like all sorts of music, but every so often come back to Pink Floyd or Blues. "Cant get you out of my head" by Kylie is up there somewhere, as is "Smells like Teen Spirit" – Nirvana, especially the Fat Boy Slim mix on Moulin Rouge (forgot to mention that one on the film question)

What is your favourite hymn / verse?

In hymns "Be thou my vision", contemporary worship "Blessed be Your Name (you give and take away)". There is also a dance track called 3D by Dba, which I find very worshipful, and have often used in alternative worship.

What is your favourite verse of Scripture?

Zephaniah 3:17

Have you got a motto?

"Be comfortable in your skin"...this is a cavers' phrase meaning be happy being where you are, and if you are not then you are out of your depth. They are usually referring to the wet and cold, or other extreme places, but there is a bit of a spiritual message there too.

Have you got a hero?

Not a hero but many people that I know have influenced me. Most of them not famous, but also people like Mike Yakonelli, Tony Campolo, Pip Wilson.

What most annoys you about other people?

The assumption that their way of doing something is the only way to do it.

What do you admire in other people?

Lots of things, some people are so gifted in the way they serve others.

What's the best thing about Church life?

Being among people that are totally different from each other but still love each other, and love Jesus.

What's the worst thing about Church life?

“The harvest is ready but the workers are few”, we need each other so much and seem to waste a lot of time and effort on things which will probably turn out not to be important.

What is the most exciting thing that has happened to you recently?

Life is always exciting. I am continually excited by the young people who come to and lead 0:-) at the Tithe Barn (1st and 3rd sat in the month 7:30...quick advert). 0:-) is easily the most exciting thing happening at the moment, and that's because of the young people. They lead worship, pray with each other...much more. I was also amazed at school last week, a number of 12 and 13 year olds volunteered to hand out palm crosses in the busiest part of school and invite people to our Chaplaincy Holy week programme. I would have never been brave enough to do that at their age, but we gave out over 200.