

St. Luke's Formby Parish Magazine

July/Aug 2023

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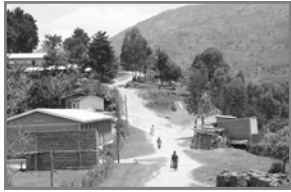
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**Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess,
for He who promised is faithful.** *Hebrews 10:23*





Shyira Trust

Registered Charity Number 1118979

Hon President: Prof Allan Hobson MBE

Serving the people of Rwanda, Africa



relieving poverty

advancing education

preserving and protecting good health

Kivu Diocese

Aim: To support Bishop Augustin's 5 point programme

- Palliative care in the community
- Church leadership courses
- Development of job creation (entrepreneurship) among youth and women
- Fighting malnutrition and stunting
- Supporting home and family life



Shyira District Hospital

Mothers' Union

Aim: To support MU members in serving their communities

Achieved:

- Members supported with bedding and kitchen utensils
- Training of 25 MU trainers from all over the Diocese
- Successful Revolving Goat Loan project

Challenges:

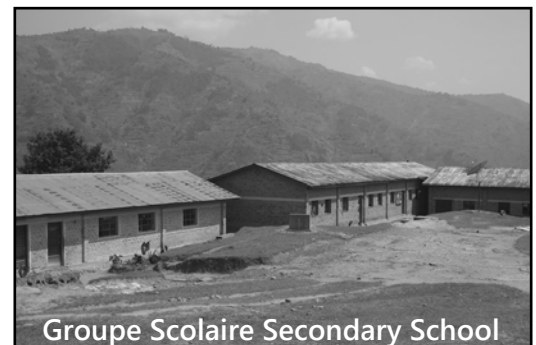
- To extend the MU support across Kivu Diocese
- To work through the Gisenyi MU to help the most needy parts of the Diocese



Lake Kivu

Primary Schools

Aim: To support school ministry by providing equipment, school materials and evangelistic outreach



Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

Aim: To support needy students in Shyira

How YOU can help

See our website: <http://www.shyiratrust.org.uk>

Email us for further information: shyira-06@shyiratrust.org.uk

Donations may be sent to: Shyira Trust, Secretary: Ken Davies
53 Stapleton Road, Formby, Liverpool L37 2YT

Donate online: <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/shyiratrust>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/shyiratrust>

Vicar – Revd Dr Matt Davis



From the Vicarage

It's now officially summer and we've already had our first heatwave of the year. What a hot month June was! The vicarage "weather station" recorded over 33°C (91°F) around the middle of the month. Inside, it was difficult to work during the day and difficult to sleep at night. Outside, the endless blue skies turned lawns into straw and soil into dust. Parts of the National Trust overflow carparks started looking more like golf course bunkers and I spotted several unfortunate cars stuck after busy days on the beach.

We all love the idea of hot weather, but as soon as it's been around for a day or two, we're ready to get back to a more normal British summer. If it lasts more than a week, we're ready to declare an emergency—we even talk to strangers about it! We're not really cut out for hot weather here. Thankfully June also brought some much-needed rain, even a few impressive thunderstorms, bringing relief for plants and animals.

The dry weather, and the longing for rain, reminded me of a promise in the Old Testament. God declares this in Isaiah 44:3–4:

"For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams."

After the dry weather, we can relate to the delight of this promise much more easily. As we became thirsty, so our land did as well. As God provides water, and the land drinks it in, so the grass springs back up. But the Lord isn't just talking about physical dryness. He's talking of spiritual dryness. All of us have a need, whether we realise it or not. All of us have a thirst, whether we try to hide it or not. We try to fill our lives with many things, but only one thing satisfies.

On a hot and dry day in the middle east two thousand years ago, Jesus got talking to a woman by a well. This is what he said to her:

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (John 4:13–14)

Nothing in this life lasts. Everything fades and needs replacing. We hope in something, only to be disappointed later on. The one exception is Jesus. If we come to him, he will satisfy our deepest needs and longings. And he will continue to satisfy our deepest needs and longings—for ever.

(Continued on page 2)

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Illustrator: Joan MacDonald

St. Luke's Web Site: <http://www.stlukesformby.org.uk>

St. Luke's Facebook Page: [facebook.com/StLukesChurchFormby](https://www.facebook.com/StLukesChurchFormby)

I wonder, do you know this spiritual water Jesus is talking of? Have you experienced it? Jesus longs for you to come and know and trust in him. And if you do, you'll never be disappointed.

With every blessing,

Matt

.....
CHURCH REGISTER FOR JUNE
.....

No weddings and no baptisms.
Funerals and burials:
18th June – David Jones (burial of ashes)

.....
DATES AND NOTES
.....

SERVICES – The wearing of face coverings and social distancing are no longer necessary in church. However, it is totally acceptable for those who wish to wear face coverings and socially distance to continue doing so. Zoom is no longer in operation.

PRAYER CHAIN – Please contact **Philip Lowe** if you know of someone who would appreciate prayer support (p.h.lowe50@btinternet.com).

PASTORAL SUPPORT – if you, or someone you know would appreciate a visit from our pastoral team please telephone Hillary Griffin (871846) or Jean Watts (877662) (Pastoral Care Co-Ordinators). Jean is also Vulnerable Adults Officer.

WHAT'S ON AT ST LUKE'S IN JULY & AUG – refer also to pages 3, 4 & 12 and weekly news sheets for details. Services can be found on pages 9 & 10.

CRAFTY FOLK – alongside Café@StLuke's on Sat July 1st & Sat Aug 12th.

KIDS @ ST LUKE'S ON SUNDAYS –

July – 2nd all in church; 9th & 16th Kids @ St Luke's (Children's Church). Summer break in Aug.

DONATIONS FOR FLOODS/LANDSLIDES APPEAL IN SHYIRA (RWANDA) – via the parish-to-parish link. Donate button on the parish website or in a clearly marked envelope left in church.

DONATIONS FOR FLOODS/LANDSLIDES APPEAL IN KIVU DIOCESE (RWANDA) – via The Shyira Trust. See pages 6 & 7.

SOUTHPORT SOUP KITCHEN / FOOD BANK – non-perishable items may be left in the church porch; ongoing.

THANK YOU DAY – Sunday 2nd July; <https://thankyouday.org.uk> for more information.

DATE OF NEXT PCC MEETING – Wed July 5th Meeting Room 7.30pm.

ST SWITHIN'S DAY – Sat July 15th.

LATE SUMMER BANK HOLIDAY – Mon Aug 28th.

Café@StLuke's - Saturday June 3rd

Music by Jill Fielding



SEE PAGE 4 FOR OPENING SATURDAYS AND MUSIC IN JULY & AUGUST



"It's not a new stained-glass window – the Youth Club put its skateboard ramp too close to the church's west wall!"



2 – 4pm

June 3rd – Music – Jill Fielding

June 17th

July 1st – Music – Skiffle with Peter Connor

July 15th

July 29th – Music – Northwind with Steve Waddelove

August 12th

August 26th – Music - SOS

ST LUKE'S MINI MEDICS



At St Luke's, our children love opportunities to take on positions of responsibility, developing skills of citizenship and social confidence. We already have our well-established buddy system, the School Council, Library Leaders, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Sports' Ambassadors and Worship Warriors. These all have a big role to play in making sure pupils feel safe and happy in school. They are great examples of the Church of England's vision to fulfil Jesus' promise of "life in all its fullness".



To extend this further, our Lead First Aider, Mrs Webberley, recently organised training in basic first aid for 30 of our Y4 and Y5 pupils. They are now officially *Mini Medics*, and, from September, they will be on a rota to support staff on playground duty. The children learned about prioritising the "Four Bs": breathing, bleeding, broken bones, bruises/burns. They were trained in CPR and learned how to apply bandages and slings. Perhaps most importantly, they learned how to spot hazards, call for help from the emergency services and access our school defibrillator. One of the children said: "Of course, I hope we never need to use any of this stuff, but I feel confident that I could help someone". The trainer was full of praise for the children. He said, "I've never trained such an enthusiastic and knowledgeable bunch of young people. They are well equipped to provide first aid treatment and I am sure there is a future doctor or paramedic or two among them!"



Mrs Sharon Cowey - Headteacher

LATEST FROM THE SHYIRA TRUST

As many of our Shyira Trust and Church members will have picked up by now, the remit of the Trust has broadened out into Kivu Diocese. This has evolved naturally in recent years as the bulk of the work of the Trust in and around Shyira has been accomplished. However, the parish link between St Luke's and St Mark's Shyira continues to gather pace as we emerge from the pandemic, with 8 people (including our Vicar, Matt) from St Luke's visiting Shyira in early October. Does the Shyira Trust now need a name change you may ask? The trustees have considered this possibility, and the question was put recently to Bishop Augustin of Kivu Diocese. His reply was that we should keep the name 'Shyira' in the title, as the people, not just in Shyira but in the Diocese as a whole, will recognise and identify with it immediately.

FLOODS IN RWANDA IN MAY

The following is an abridged and slightly edited extract from an email received towards the end of May from Bishop Augustin –

"Rwanda experienced unusual heavy rain early this month, particularly on May 2-3; the floods and landslides causing loss of human lives, infrastructures and family properties including crops, livestock, houses and all domestic food stocks and materials. The Western, Northern and Southern provinces were affected. Up to 131 people died and over 6,000 homes were destroyed in total. In Nyabihu District (where Shyira parish is located) 18 people died and 427 houses were destroyed.



Close to 72% of the death toll and over 70% of the destroyed homes are in the area where Kivu Diocese operates! Not only that, but also health centres, bridges, many national and district roads, numerous voltage lines as well as power stations and schools were

affected! The government, churches, and other organisations have been trying to help, but the need is overwhelming. Many of our church members are among the affected people, and some of our church buildings host displaced people. Upon the request of St Luke's Formby, St Mark's Shyira has compiled and submitted a needs assessment regarding the Shyira area (see our June magazine, page 3). Whatever the Shyira Trust can do for the rest of the Diocese would be highly appreciated.*

Because of such losses, the needs of these people are multifaceted:

Physical – food, clothing, utensils, sleeping facilities etc.

Emotional – counselling, re-building hope.

Psychological – people will not be allowed to go back to their risky home areas and will be relocated to safer places. This raises a sentimental loss as well as a fear of the unknown.

Spiritual – a mission opportunity to help them realise that the world is a vanishing reality, a temporal home. There is an eternal home where disasters do not reach."



(*If you would like to make a donation in support of recovery from the floods in Kivu Diocese, then you can either donate online via the following link - <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/RwandaFloods> or, by means of a cheque payable to The Shyira Trust and given personally to the Trust Secretary Ken Davies or posted to 53 Stapleton Road, Formby, Liverpool L37 2YT).

Trustees had also agreed at a regular meeting on May 30th to transfer immediately £3,000 from unrestricted funds to Kivu Diocese in aid of the Appeal. This money was sent as instructed.

THE FIVE MAJOR PROJECTS

These are listed in the first section headed Kivu Diocese on the inside of the front cover of our magazine and also on recently produced flyers. The funding in support of these projects comes from the large donation made to the Trust several years ago. A recent report from Bishop Augustin indicated that ‘Palliative care in the community’ was progressing well.

SPONSORSHIP OF STUDENTS AT GROUPE SCOLAIRE (SECONDARY SCHOOL) SHYIRA

This continues to thrive under the stewardship of trustee Colin Cooke and volunteer Margaret Cooke. There are currently 56 students sponsored: mainly by local people in Formby, but also from further afield – 3 from the Maghull area, one in Scotland, one in the Lake District and one in Bristol. If you would like to sponsor a student at Groupe Scolaire contact Colin or Margaret by email: macooke29@gmail.com or Tel: 01704 876325.

THE FUTURE OF THE TRUST

We cannot actively fundraise as we once did. We simply do not have the manpower to do so, especially now that we have this broader remit. However, donations are still readily accepted in aid of Kivu Diocese. I suggest we leave the future in God’s capable hands.

The 2023 AGM of the Trust is currently scheduled for late October.

Ken Davies – Trust Secretary on behalf of trustees

.....
Professor Allan Hobson MBE talks to Rotary about Rwanda

It was with much pleasure that the Rotary Club of St Helens welcomed Allan to come and speak to the Club about his work in Rwanda and the fantastic projects that have been achieved in Shyira, in part previously, with the support of the Rotary organisation. After being duly ‘fed’ and ‘watered’ Allan certainly seemed to ‘wet the appetite’ of the Rotarians to look at how Rotary got involved in supporting the work in Shyira and the Kivu region.



It is very much hoped that it might be possible to join again with Rotary to support some further work in Shyira as part of our visit to Rwanda in October this year.

President Simon Hairsnape, pictured above with Allan, was so taken with Allan’s speech he wanted to read more and bought a copy of Allan’s book - **Linking Parishes and Harvesting Friendship**. Speak to Allan if you wish to purchase a copy.

John Gelder – St Luke’s PCC

SERVICES FOR JULY 2023

Sunday 2nd July – Trinity 4

8.30am Holy Communion BCP
10.30am All-age Service with
Holy Communion CW

Thursday 6th July

11.00am Holy Communion CW

Sunday 9th July – Trinity 5

8.30am Holy Communion CW
10.30am Morning Service
with Children's Church*

Sunday 16th July – Trinity 6

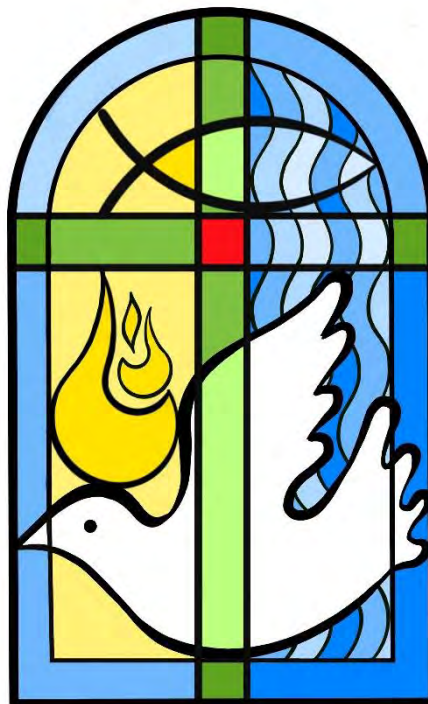
8.30am Holy Communion BCP
10.30am Holy Communion with
Children's Church CW*

Sunday 23rd July – Trinity 7

8.30am Holy Communion CW
10.30am Baptism

Sunday 30th July – Trinity 8

8.30am Holy Communion CW
10.30am Morning Service
with Children's Church*



(*Term time only)

**Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.
(Hebrews 10:23 NIV)**

Prayer for July 2023

Loving Father,

July brings long days and summer pleasures, for many, but not for all. Lord, we pray for those who are finding life to be a struggle; for families with no hope of a holiday this year; for parents who don't know how they will feed their children during the upcoming long school break; for those who are lonely, or discouraged, or isolated, or afraid.

Lord, we pray for justice and compassion from those in positions of power and responsibility. And please Lord, show *us* how to help, how to be part of the solution. May we, as your children, reflect your loving kindness wherever we can. May your Kingdom come on earth, through us.

In Jesus' name.
Amen

By Daphne Kitching – from Parish Pump website

SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2023

Thursday 3rd August

11.00am Holy Communion CW

Sunday 6th August – Trinity 9

8.30am Holy Communion BCP

10.30am All-age Service with
Holy Communion CW

Sunday 13th August – Trinity 10

8.30am Holy Communion CW

10.30am Morning Service

Sunday 20th August – Trinity 11

8.30am Holy Communion BCP

10.30am Holy Communion CW

Sunday 27th August – Trinity 12

8.30am Holy Communion CW

10.30am Morning Service



**Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.
(Hebrews 10:23 NIV)**

THERE

There, in that other world, what waits for me?
What shall I find after that other birth?
No stormy, tossing, foaming, smiling sea,
But a new earth.

No sun to mark the changing of the days,
No slow, soft falling of the alternate night,
No moon, no star, no light upon my ways,
Only the Light.

No grey cathedral, wide and wondrous fair,
That I may tread where all my fathers trod.
Nay, nay, my soul, no house of God is there,
But only God.

Mary Coleridge (1861-1907)

CONFIDENCE IN GOD

Alone with none but Thee, my God,
I journey on my way.
What need I fear, when Thou art near
O King of night and day?
More safe I am within Thy hand
Than if a host did round me stand.

St Columba

(Both poems courtesy of Parish Pump)

WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev Dr Matt Davis
Readers	Mrs Anne Dixon Prof. Allan Hobson Mrs Jean Watts Mr Chris Mulford
Reader emeritus	
Churchwardens	Mr Steve Ginn Mrs Fiona Grieveson
Deputy Churchwardens	Mr John McGibbon Mrs Sheila Rodger
Treasurer	Mr Hugh Dixon
Deputy Treasurer	Mrs Gwyneth Croft
PCC Secretary	Dr David Hogben
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Jean Cox
Deanery Synod Representatives	Mr Andrew Cox Mr John Gelder Mrs Hillary Griffin Dr David Hogben
Gift Aid Officer	Mrs Rachel Patterson
Legacy Officer	Mr John McGibbon
Parish Hall Secretary	Mr Steve Ginn
Meeting Room Secretary	Mrs Fiona Grieveson
Newsletter Editor	Mrs Irene Powell
Magazine Editors	Mrs Margaret Cooke Mr Ken Davies (Contributions by 10th of the month – preferably by email – see page 1)
Magazine Distribution	Mr Colin Cooke
Magazine Collation	Mr David Moore
Magazine Adverts	Mrs Margaret Cooke
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	Mr Allan Worthington
Safeguarding Officer	Dr Peter Griffin
Child Protection Officer	Mrs Joyce Eddlestone
Pastoral Care Co-ordinators	Mrs Hillary Griffin Mrs Jean watts
Vulnerable Adults Officer	Mrs Jean Watts
Health & Safety Officer	Dr David Hogben
Woodland Workshop Co-ordinator	Dr Peter Griffin
Cathedral Representative	Mrs Elizabeth Lowe
Church & Mid-African Mission	Mrs June McGibbon
Church Administrator	Mrs Valerie Hogben

WHAT'S ON

Monthly Prayer Meetings – See weekly news sheet for details. Monday or Tuesday evening likely day/s, 7.30pm in MEETING ROOM.

Weekly Home Bible Groups – If you would like to join a group, please speak to Matt.

St Luke's Youth Group for Y6 children and above from 7.45-9.00pm each Sun during term time. It is led by Liz & Matt in the MEETING ROOM. There are pizzas/snacks; games; and a chance to explore and grow our faith in Jesus.

Café@StLuke's – See pages 3 & 4.

Crafty Folk - see page 2 for details.

Open Doors – (Sat mornings) closed for the spring and summer.

Tuesday Lunch - in MEETING ROOM on 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month (4th & 18th July, NONE in Aug) between 12 and 2.00pm for food, drinks, and a chat. Donations for lunch welcome.

Parish Breakfast (between Sunday services, first Sun of the month) – 2nd July, NONE in Aug.

Woodland Workshop – contact Peter Griffin (871846) for details.

Creche - a creche is available at all 10.30am services.

Uniformed Organisations in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

Rainbows	Contact District Commissioner		Sheila Kirk	875393
Brownie Guides				
4 th Formby	Monday (In Meeting Room)	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
8 th Formby	Wednesday	6.00pm	Jenette Rowlands	
Guides				
4 th Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
Beavers	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	5.45pm	John Gelder Beavers8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com	876456
Cub Scouts	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	6.45pm	Bob Ford Cubs8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com	873026
Group Scout Leader			Gordon Hilbert	874167

Confirmation classes for juniors and adults are held annually.

Home Communion – The Wardens welcome the names and addresses of the sick and elderly who would like Holy Communion at home.

Baptisms & Weddings – Contact the Wardens after the 10.30 service.

PCC – if you would like to communicate a concern to the PCC, **the Standing Committee members** are Rev Dr Matt Davis (Vicar), Mr Hugh Dixon (Treasurer), Mr Steve Ginn (Warden), Mrs Fiona Grieveson (Warden), Dr David Hogben (Secretary).

Other PCC Members are Mr Andrew Cox, Miss Debbie Davies, Mr Ken Davies, Mrs Ann Dennison, Mrs Anne Dixon, Mr John Gelder, Mrs Hillary Griffin, Dr Peter Griffin, Prof Allan Hobson, Mrs June McGibbon, Mrs Chris Payne, Mrs Sheila Rodger, Mrs Jean Watts.

(Toilet facilities are available in the Meeting Room throughout services)

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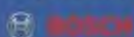
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WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN JULY & AUGUST

HOLIDAY @ HOME – SEE PAGE 16

St Luke's Church - P2 Dates & Notes, P3 & 4 Café@StLuke's, P12 What's On, & Weekly News Sheets for information.

St Peter's Church and Parish Hall (Paradise Lane) – 01704 871171

- Bingo for the elderly every Sun 8.00-9.30pm and Mon 2.00-4.00pm of the month.
- Singing Thursdays! (except for 1st Thurs of the month). Thursdays continue to be full of singing in the parish hall. All groups will meet at 2pm and finish approx. 3.30. Free entry and refreshments. Everyone welcome, regardless of ability (or none), so join us for light-hearted singing.
 - 2nd Thursday 13th July & 10th Aug – Singing for Fun.
 - 3rd Thursday 20th July & 17th Aug – Singing's Good for Your Brain! A person has now been found to lead the singing!
 - 4th Thursday 27th July & 24th Aug – Singalong Fun Choir.
- Past Times Community Choir – every Tues 2-3.30pm in Parish Hall. Free fun community choir. Refreshments provided. Dementia friendly.

Evensong / Songs of Praise at St Michael's Church Blundellsands

- Sun 9th July – refreshments will be served from 3.00pm onwards, with the service to begin at approx. 5.30pm. All churches are invited to join in (CTiFAH).

Formby Methodists

- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (July 4th & Aug 1st) 2-4pm – see FBS below.
- The Carers' Support Group meets every Fri afternoon 2.00-4.00pm at the Methodist Church. The group is open not only to all carers and the person/s they care for, but also to anyone who needs some additional company or support. Contact Irene for further information on Tel: 876219 or Email: info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk

Formby Library (01704 874177) – Mon to Fri 10.00-4.30pm and Sat 10.00-1.30pm

- Limited delivery service on offer; enquire at Library for details.
- Open for browsing and computer use.
- Talk on Wed 26th July at 2.00pm by Sean Wensley, a vet born and raised in Formby talking about his new book 'Through a Vet's Eyes'. Contact Library to book a place. Further months' talks can be enquired about nearer the dates.
- Regular Coffee Mornings (every Thursday 10.30-12noon).
- Creative Writing and Formby Hub drop-in are still happening throughout the summer; enquire at Library for details.
- Community Garden project for all ages is recruiting volunteers, so contact the Library if interested and also if you want to go on the mailing list to receive updates on forthcoming sessions.
- FL is participating in Holiday at Home scheme again this year with an event on Mon 21st Aug at 2.00pm. Details and bookings are handled through the Holiday at Home project – hath@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk See page 16.

Formby Befriending Scheme - FBS will be holding their Open Coffee Club on the first Tues of each month (4th July & 1st Aug) 2-4pm at the Methodist Church. It is open to older adults who would like to make new friends or just to have some company. For more information, ring: 07437 479 417 or email: info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk

Sefton Dementia Action Alliance – contact Jan Campbell: jan.campbell@seftoncvcs.org.uk for further information.



HOLIDAY AT HOME

14th – 25th August 2023

FOR OLDER ADULTS IN FORMBY, HIGHTOWN and INCE BLUNDELL

Formby Befriending Scheme, with support from Churches Together and other community groups and individuals, is once again offering a 'Holiday at Home' for older adults in the Formby, Hightown and Ince Blundell areas during the last 2 weeks in August. The main aim of the fortnight is to give people who are no longer able to go away on holiday the opportunity to have a 'holiday experience' in their own community.

Last year, we had a wonderful time, with many people enjoying social activities for the first time since the Covid pandemic. Many events were fully booked with some of the larger ones having 100+ people attending. And so, once again, we are delighted to offer a packed programme and are confident that it will be another fortnight of friendship and fun which will be enjoyed by all who participate.

The printed programme will be available early in July and can be picked up from churches and other locations in Formby, Hightown and Ince Blundell. Bookings this year will open on Tuesday 25th July when there will be a special afternoon at Formby Methodist Church with members of the Holiday at Home Team taking your bookings and serving refreshments. Telephone bookings will open on Wednesday 26th and there will be 2 further face-to-face opportunities to book and pay for events that require pre-payment. Details will be included in the programme.

Transport will be available for those who need assistance to attend. Please take the time to read the guidelines on transport and booking options which are in the programme.

Our sincere thanks go to all those who are hosting a special event for Holiday at Home 2023. We look forward to another great holiday experience!

The Holiday at Home Team

KEY DATES

Saturday 1st July – Programme booklets available in churches and other local venues.

Tuesday 25th July 1.30-4pm – Booking afternoon @ Formby Methodist Church (refreshments served).

Wednesday 26th July 10am – Telephone bookings start (details in programme).

Tuesday 1st August 10-11.30am – Bookings taken @ St Stephen's Church, Hightown.

Tuesday 1st August 2-4pm – Bookings taken @ Holy Trinity Church, Formby.

A.F.A. SPRING EXHIBITION



It was a lovely sunny day on Saturday 20th May for the Association of Formby Artists' Spring Exhibition 2023. Visitors through the doors were in for a treat.



The work on show was delightful and very varied. As well as paintings in watercolour, oils, and acrylic there were images in coloured pencils, graphite, and pastels. There were pictures using mixed media and etchings and some really appealing textile ones. Some of the artists had used their own felt to create almost 3D works. Seeing the variety made one realise that art can be made using more or less anything!

In addition to all the paintings, there were a number of embroidered boxes and handmade ornaments for sale – very attractive to look at! There was also a display of hand dyed and painted silk goods – including scarves, ties, brooches, ornaments, and cards. If you needed any sort of greeting card, then beautiful handmade ones by artists were in evidence too.

Visitors were invited to vote for their favourite three pictures and these artists were awarded the trophies:

Jeff Scott (no.149) titled 'Dawn Breaks'.

Elizabeth Harding-Huber (no.59) titled 'I've got you'.

Rod Jacques (no.80) titled 'Harbour Boats'.



I really enjoyed this exhibition because it showed the talent of the members of the Association. I liked the wide range of subjects covered, from landscapes, seascapes and townscapes to animals, birds and fish. There were flowers and trees, still lives and portraits, abstracts with sheer imagination - anything you can think of!

The next exhibition is on Saturday 25th November and is always shown in Holy Trinity Church Hall in Formby Village. Hope to see you then!

Joan MacDonald – AFA Member & Magazine Illustrator

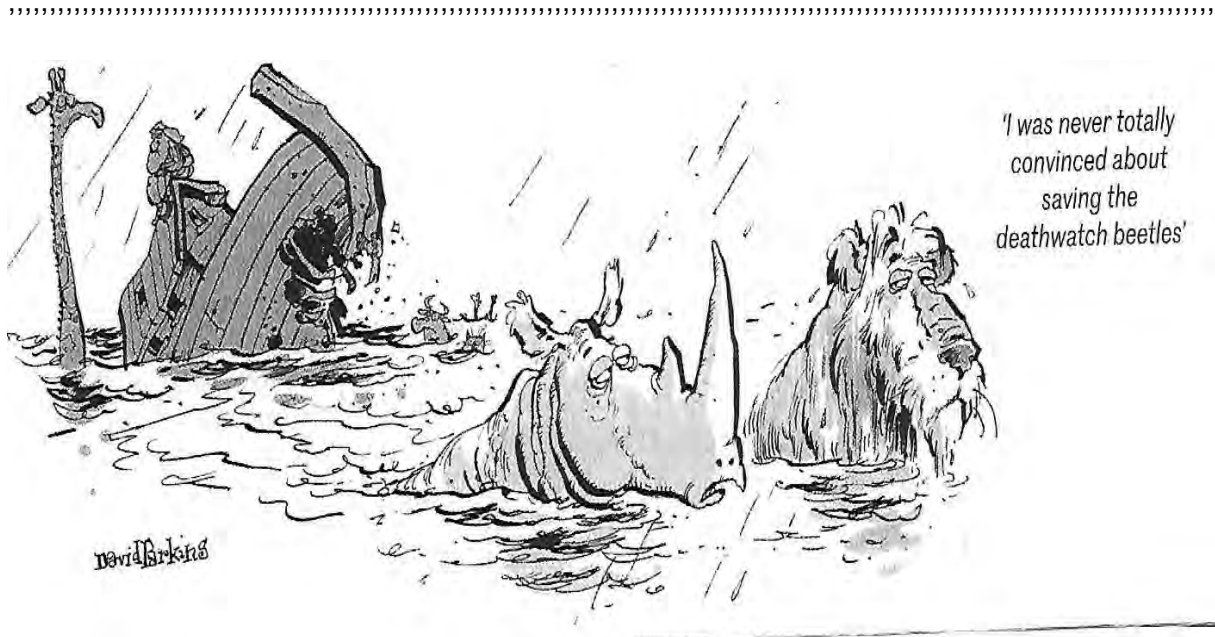
SPARE A THOUGHT FOR SHOEBOXES

We don't usually think about Operation Christmas Child and the collection of shoeboxes at this time of year. There's too much else to occupy our thoughts, just now. However, Samaritan's Purse, who run the system, are involved in one way or another, throughout the year. They believe that feedback to all the generous supporters is an important part of that system, which does impact lives for eternity. The report received recently has some staggering information. For instance, 10.5 million boxes were distributed worldwide last year. The year also saw the 200th million shoebox packed since the project started in 1993! The President of Samaritan's Purse, Mr. Franklin Graham, said: "Every shoebox prayerfully packed in Jesus' name is special". His report went on to outline events which took place in the year.

Operation Christmas Child managed to reach the Himba people in Namibia. They are nomadic livestock farmers who have no written language, and they worship and pray to ancestors. Any healing required is sought from the local witch doctor! Not only have the children been contacted, but as with all shoeboxes there is a follow up discipleship programme. Over 80 countries have received the gifts, from Albania to Zambia, and Samaritan's Purse strongly believe that these gifts are a tangible expression of God's love for children in desperate need.

Our collection this year will begin on the first Sunday in September. Boxes will be in Church from that date. However, if anyone would like a box now, to start putting items together, they are available from David Moore [email: davjoy3@talktalk.net](mailto:davjoy3@talktalk.net) or tel. 01704 875101. I am happy to deliver within the Formby area.

David Moore – St Luke's Church Member



SMILE LINES – Church School Test

Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark and animals came on in pears.

Lot's wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.

In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world, so He took the Sabbath off.

The Egyptians were all drowned in the desert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.



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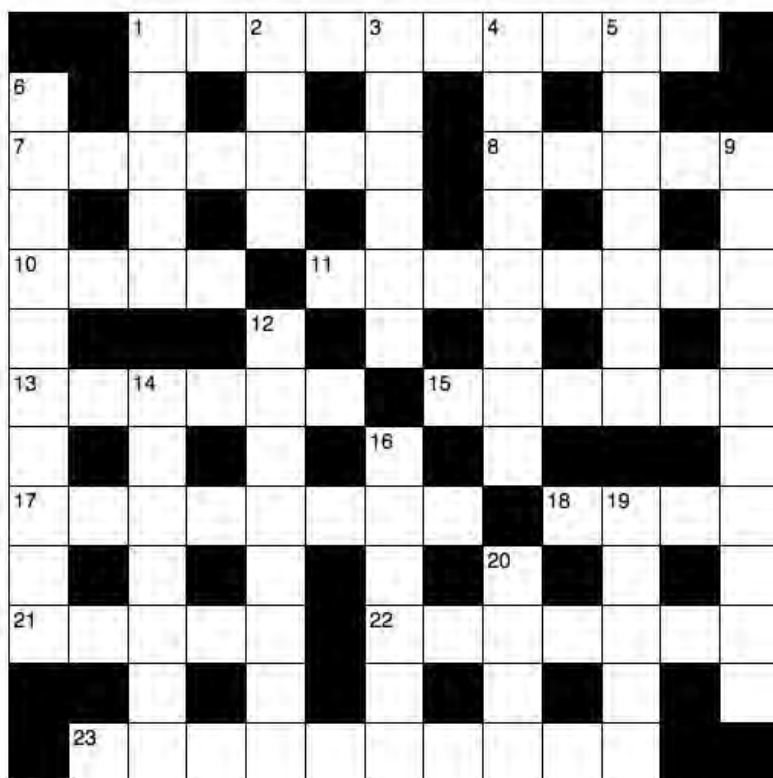
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CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 Relating to the Jewish day of rest (10)
 7 Point of view (Matthew 22:17) (7)
 8 20th-century Brethren philanthropist whose construction company became one of the UK's biggest, Sir John — (5)
 10 Girl's name (4)
 11 Peter was accused of being one in the courtyard of the high priest's house (Luke 22:59) (8)
 13 The fifth of the 'seven churches' (Revelation 3:1–6) (6)
 15 'Now the famine was — in Samaria' (1 Kings 18:2) (6)
 17 Banned by the seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) (8)
 18 Insect most closely

- associated with itching (1 Samuel 24:14) (4)
 21 Bantu tribe which gives its name to tiny landlocked country in southern Africa (5)
 22 Familiar material in churches that use an overhead projector (7)
 23 Last book of the Bible (10)

Down

- 1 The young David's favourite weapon (1 Samuel 17:40) (5)
 2 'Your vats will — over with new wine' (Proverbs 3:10) (4)
 3 Once yearly (Exodus 30:10) (6)
 4 Milled it (anag.) (3-5)
 5 Region north of Damascus of which Lysanias was tetrarch (Luke 3:1) (7)
 6 Comes between Philippians and 1 Thessalonians (10)
 9 Lake where the first disciples were called (Luke 5:1–11) (10)
 12 Abusive outburst (8)
 14 Are loud (anag.) (7)
 16 Printing errors (6)
 19 'Take my yoke upon you and — from me' (Matthew 11:29) (5)
 20 Jacob's third son (Genesis 29:34) (4)

(SOLUTION ON PAGE 24)

SMILE LINES – Bishops' Tales:

Several years ago, the then Bishop of London reported to the General Synod that before attending a church function he had said he would bring his pastoral staff. "And how many seats will you want?" came the reply.

"People get nervous when they think that they have to call me 'my Lord', said an Irish bishop. "Especially the poor nuns. One was giving me a cup of coffee. As she pushed the sugar bowl towards me, she said, 'How many lords, my lump?'"

SUDOKU

EASY

			6			2	3	
9					8	6		5
	6	3				9	1	
				4	7	1	8	9
1			8		5			3
2	7	8	1	9				
	9	6				4	7	
8		1	9					6
	5	7			6			

MEDIUM

2		5				8		
			6	5	3			
9							6	
			4		6			1
3								4
7			2		9			
	2							9
			5	7	4			
		4				6		5

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

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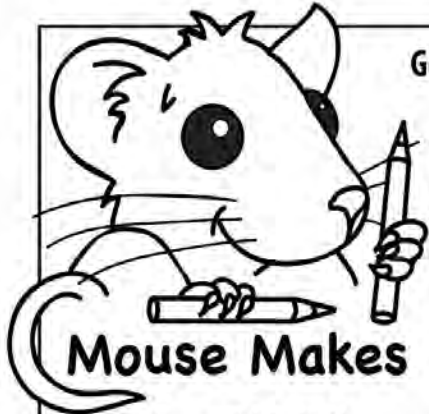
WORDSEARCH

F	I	S	U	T	E	I	L	A	R	L	F	T	O
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D	O	U	B	T	I	N	G	E	F	R	H	R	I
N	O	I	T	C	E	R	R	U	S	E	R	O	F
D	I	G	X	U	I	R	E	G	N	A	D	L	O
A	E	T	A	I	D	E	M	M	I	S	R	T	L
J	S	I	S	B	F	E	H	L	A	S	O	F	L
E	N	S	E	U	N	I	S	T	T	U	L	A	O
W	O	U	N	D	S	A	C	U	I	R	Z	T	W
S	P	U	R	M	M	E	O	U	F	A	G	H	L
T	S	E	N	O	H	E	J	E	R	N	F	E	N
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O	R	T	E	N	N	C	S	O	L	E	U	C	E
O	R	S	Z	O	T	C	G	I	L	Y	L	R	O

On 3rd July the Church remembers St Thomas, also called Doubting Thomas, because he would not believe his fellow disciples' news of the Resurrection. But 'doubt' did not mean that Thomas did not love Jesus! Only a few weeks before, Thomas had urged his fellow disciples to follow Jesus to see Lazarus in Bethany, despite danger from the Jews. "Let us also go, that we may die with him" (John 11:16). Instead, Jesus had brought Lazarus back to life. Thomas was sometimes very confused about just where Jesus was headed. But in John 14:5 Jesus untangled his

confused commitment: "I am going to my Father", and "No one comes unto the Father but by me." Finally, after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to Thomas, showing him the wounds of His crucifixion. Thomas was electrified, and his response immediate: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). Thus, Doubting Thomas' honest doubts turned into honest faith and have become a reassurance for thousands of people down the centuries.

- | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| July | Love | Danger | Going | Immediate | |
| Thomas | Jesus | Jews | Father | Lord | |
| Resurrection | Follow | Die | Wounds | God | |
| Doubt | Lazarus | Life | Crucifixion | Honest | |
| Doubting | Bethany | Confused | Response | Faith | Reassurance |



Goliath, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.
"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"



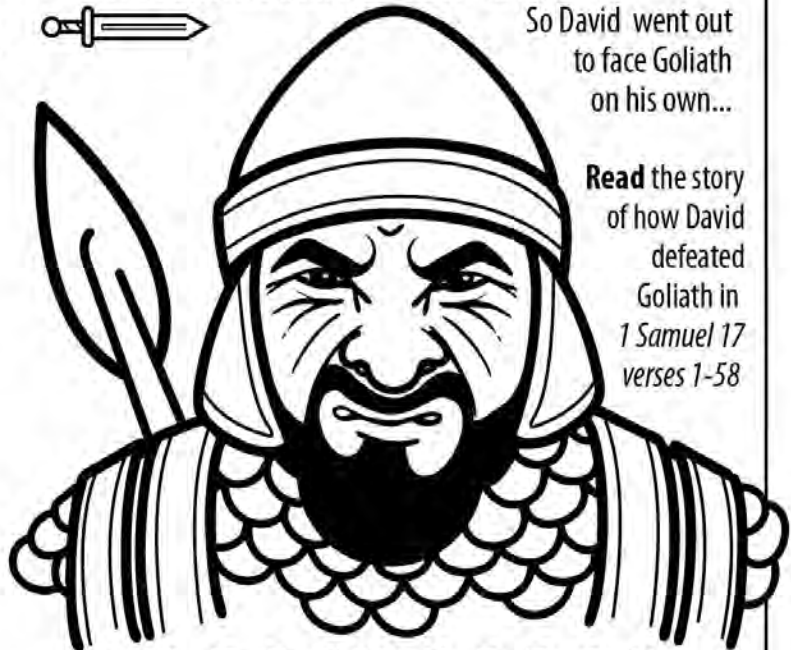
The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:

"The Lord who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."



So David went out to face Goliath on his own...

Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in *1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58*



Where did Goliath come from?



1 Samuel 17:4

How tall was Goliath?



_____ cubits.

1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

1 Samuel 17:5,6

What weapons did Goliath carry?



a JAVELIN,

a _____
and a _____

1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?



1 Samuel 17:40



Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his _____

1 Samuel 17:49

I L A D E S W O R D B K L
 P A C A M P L I O N A D B
 H I F I V E S L I N G A R
 I T L E B A T T L E O V O
 L E B E A R J A V E L I N
 T S S I X M K H C F I D Z
 S T A F F O R E H E A D E
 T R U I I U P L A L T L G
 O U L S G R I M M L H O O
 N C P R H S H E P H E R D
 E K G A T H I T I D E D O
 S H I E L D G R O U N D M
 P H I L I S T I N E S O U

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 LION • SHEPHERD • STAFF • STONES • BAG • SLING • STRUCK • HIT • FELL • GROUND

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY

5	8	4	6	1	9	2	3	7
9	1	2	7	3	8	6	4	5
7	6	3	4	5	2	9	1	8
6	3	5	2	4	7	1	8	9
1	4	9	8	6	5	7	2	3
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MEDIUM

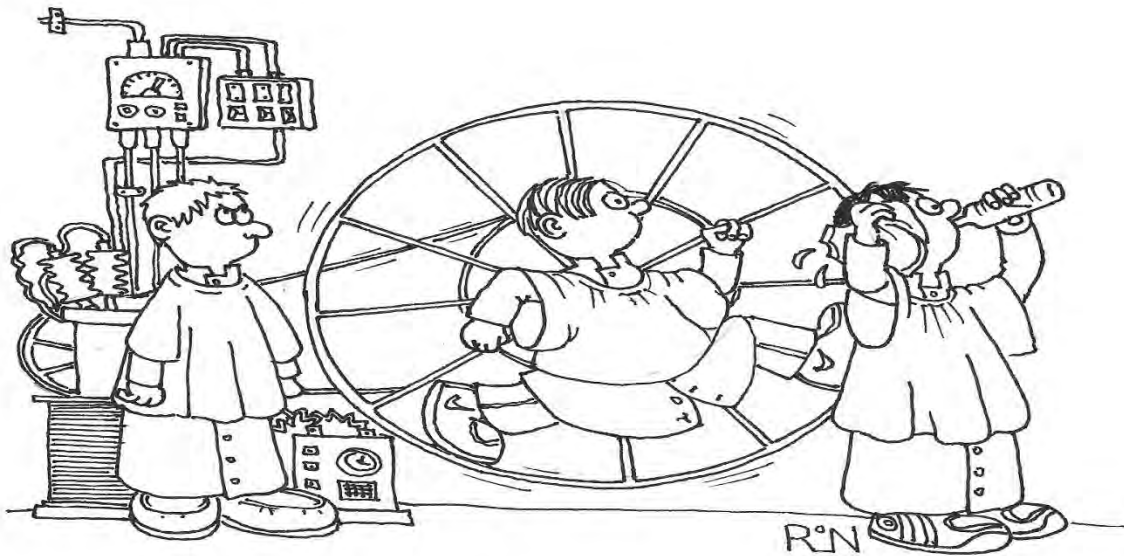
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3	9	6	7	1	5	2	8	4
7	4	1	2	8	9	3	5	6
5	2	8	3	6	1	4	7	9
6	3	9	5	7	4	1	2	8
1	7	4	9	2	8	6	3	5

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1, Sabbatical. 7, Opinion. 8, Laing. 10, Olga. 11, Galilean. 13, Sardis. 15, Severe. 17, Adultery. 18, Flea. 21, Swazi. 22, Acetate. 23, Revelation.

DOWN: 1, Sling. 2, Brim. 3, Annual. 4, Ill-timed. 5, Abilene. 6, Colossians. 9, Gennesaret. 12, Diatribe. 14, Roulade. 16, Errata. 19, Learn. 20, Levi.

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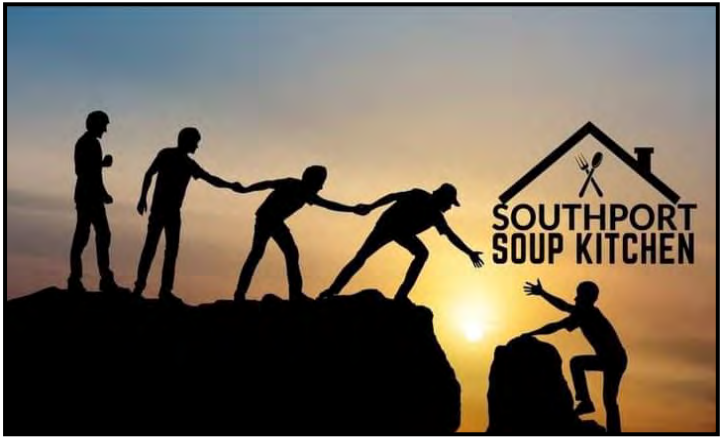
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