

# St. Luke's Formby Parish Magazine

## March 2024

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Cheaper by annual subscription

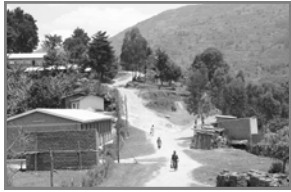
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**Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship.**

*Romans 12:1*





# 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:**

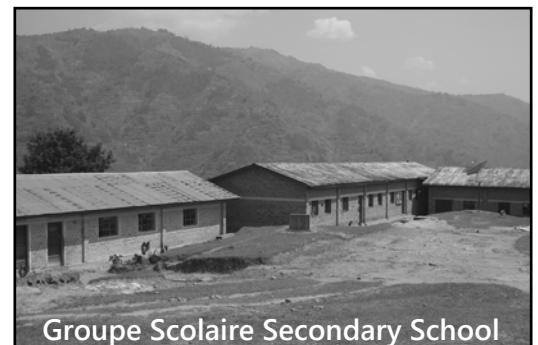
- To extend the MU support across Kivu Diocese
- To work through the Gisenyi MU to help the most needy parts of the Diocese



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](mailto: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

Dear Friends

Chocolate, beer, cigarettes, meat, wine, coffee, social media ... have you given up any of these for Lent?! If so, how's it going? We're now two weeks into Lent and by the end of the month it'll be Easter. Some of us will have given up, other's will have failed by accident (old habits die hard, especially reaching for that morning biscuit with the cuppa) and a few will keep going to the end. One year as a teenager I tried giving up chocolate, crisps and fizzy drinks. All I remember is being invited to an usually large number of parties and there wasn't much I was able to eat or drink! Since then, I've considered much more carefully before deciding whether to give something up for all of Lent.

Of course, giving up things for Lent isn't just something Christians do. Many people who have no connection with church spend the 40 days (or 46 if you include the feast days of Sunday) giving something up. It's akin to new year's resolutions. At new year, we often try to start doing something. At Lent we often try to stop doing something. Sometimes we hope the change will become a habit, other times we're glad to get going again.

One of the dangers of Lent is that we focus on ourselves. We fast from chocolate because we want to lose weight, or we stop looking at social media because we want to start a new habit. Even if we fast for spiritual reasons, we can fall into the trap of thinking we need to fast to earn God's attention or pleasure, so it comes down to our effort. But the original reason for fasting is less to do with our effort, and more to do with what Jesus accomplished.

In Philippians 2:6–8, Paul urges us to consider Jesus Christ:

*who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!*

Never mind chocolate or wine or the occasional meal, Jesus gave up *everything*. Jesus gave up his glory as the Son of God when he became a human being. He gave up the throne room of heaven for a manger in a stable. And he continued to give up everything, including his life, when he died on the cross.

(Continued on Page 2)

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**Joint Editors: Margaret Cooke (e-mail: [macooke29@gmail.com](mailto:macooke29@gmail.com)) and Ken Davies (e-mail: [kendavies1989@gmail.com](mailto:kendavies1989@gmail.com))**

**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)**

This is what we remember on Good Friday: Jesus gave up everything for us. But that is not the end. On the first Easter Sunday he rose from the dead and as Paul continues in Philippians 2:9, "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name". So, as we approach Easter, let's use the cravings or hunger pangs to remind us to lift our eyes above ourselves, and instead consider wonderful things that Jesus Christ has done for us.

With every blessing,

**Matt**

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## **CHURCH REGISTER**

### **Funerals:**

18<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Sheila Wagstaff (burial of ashes)

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## **DATES AND NOTES**

**SERVICES** – Services for March & Easter p10.

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

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT** – If you would like to financially support the work of St Luke's, offerings may be placed on the plate near the back of church. There is also a card reader by the entrance. If you would prefer to donate from your bank account, there are various ways including the Parish Giving Scheme ([parishgiving.org.uk](http://parishgiving.org.uk)) or ask Matt or the Wardens if you need any further information.

**YOUTH ALPHA** – started Sun 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 7.45pm for secondary school students. See Matt for details.

**OPEN DOOR SATS** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00-12noon in the Meeting Room.

**TUESDAY LUNCH** – 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> March, 12noon-2.00pm in the Meeting Room. Soup / sandwiches / cake & company. Donations for lunch welcome.

**ST DAVID'S DAY** – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**MOTHERING SUNDAY** – 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**ST PATRICK'S DAY** – Sun 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**PASSION PLAY** – Good Friday, Formby Pool Gardens 11.00am. Presented by CTIFAH.

**NEXT PCC MEETING** – Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm.

**BRITISH SUMMER TIME BEGINS** – Sun 31<sup>st</sup> March (clocks forward one hour)

## NOTICES

### FORMBY CHORAL SOCIETY



**MOZART - REQUIEM  
BACH - MAGNIFICAT**

**Formby High School  
(Freshfield Road L37 3HW)**

**Sat 23rd March 7.30pm**

**Tickets £13 (under 19 free)  
available at [www. formbychoralsociety.org](http://www.formbychoralsociety.org)**

#### **World Day Of Prayer - Friday 1st March**

The service in Formby will be held at  
Holy Trinity Church, Rosemary Lane at 2.00pm.

This year the service has been prepared by Christian women in Palestine and the chosen  
theme is:

“I beg you, bear with one another in love”.

Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be served after the service.

(Please note this service was planned, published and circulated before the start of the  
conflict with Israel in October 2023).

#### **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Postponed from last January to May. Full details nearer the time.

#### **National Week of Prayer for Dementia 12-18 March (p18 for prayer)**

#### **Southport Soup Kitchen**

Easter Egg Chocolate Appeal – see p9.

#### **Lunt Meadows Nature Reserve - p17**

There will be a follow-up article on the National Trust acquiring land around Lunt in our April  
issue.

#### **Parish Breakfast Sunday 11 February**

Well done to all who organised the ‘Welcome to Lent’ breakfast, where a ‘smorgasbord’ of  
continental treats, along with the traditional pancakes, were on offer to delight appetites.  
‘Shrove Tuesday’ or ‘Pancake Day’ referred to a time when in the past there would be a  
great ‘feast’ to use up supplies of foods that would not be eaten during Lent.

## NSPCC NUMBER DAY AT ST LUKE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The NSPCC is a charity organisation that supports children's mental health and wellbeing and works to protect children from harm. NSPCC stands for National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Our teachers use some of their resources in PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Economic) lessons throughout the year, but we recently had a whole special day devoted to maths activities and number puzzles. It was the NSPCC Number Day, and it is held every year as a national awareness and fundraising event.

When we celebrated the NSPCC Number Day in school on Friday 2nd February, we all came to school wearing something with a number on it or dressed as a number.

We did lots of really fun challenges and puzzles, alongside regular maths, which was enjoyed by all of our peers (and the teachers!).

Here are some fun facts about NSPCC and the number day -

- They help make 1 million children a year safer from abuse.
- The NSPCC charity has actually been around for 140 years!
- The NSPCC slogan is "every childhood is worth fighting for" – and we agree!
- The first number day took place in 1999.
- This was the first time St Luke's had taken part, and we raised £253.25 for the charity.



We asked some children what they thought of the day:

"It was amazing and a great way to raise money." **Heidi 6G**

"It was extremely enjoyable with lots of fun activities. Maths can be social and fun too." **Olivia 6G**

If you want to find out more about the work of the NSPCC, go to: [nspcc.org.uk](http://nspcc.org.uk)

**Jennifer and Aurora (6G)**

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### Worried about a child?

You can contact the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000, emailing [help@NSPCC.org.uk](mailto:help@NSPCC.org.uk) or completing our report abuse online form. You don't have to say who you are.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please call the police on 999 straight away.

**NSPCC**

## 4<sup>th</sup> ST. LUKE'S GUIDES

Just like the rest of the world, Girl Guiding is certainly feeling the pinch with a cost-of-living crisis. This has meant we have had to be inventive with how we run our unit, but we are lucky that we still have a thriving unit of girls who are eager to come each week. Many of the girls have made their promise as a Guide this term, and we also had one of our adult leaders successfully complete her leadership qualification, which is a huge achievement. Becca Clark has run a number of meetings by herself in order to achieve this, along with planning activities and participating in leaders' planning – congratulations, Becca!



Left to right: Peg Bentley (Unit helper), Steph Harrison (Unit helper), Becca Clark (receiving her leadership qualification), Julie Clark (Unit Leader, 4<sup>th</sup> St Luke's Guides), Vicki Jennings (Assistant Unit Leader, 4<sup>th</sup> St Luke's Guides).

The girls have enjoyed a mixed term, which included making their own poppies for Remembrance Sunday, practising a dance which the whole unit was involved in, a selection of Christmas crafts and a joint meeting with 8th Formby Brownies. This is something we try to include every term, as we feel it breaks down the barriers for Brownies thinking about coming to Guides and makes the whole transition less daunting. The term was finished off with a Christmas movie night accompanied by pizza. This year we chose to watch 'The Grinch Who Stole Christmas' and much fun was had by all.

So far this year the girls are exploring women in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths). They have been constructing buildings made of card and have built a shelter made entirely out of newspaper, to much hilarity as the entire team they were in had to attempt to enter it! In the near future we are hoping to do some science experiments involving slime and 'space' dust.

Girl Guiding as a whole faces an uncertain future as it has to contend with an ever-growing list of activities for young people, but at St Luke's we are certainly doing our best to keep the unit going. So far, we are succeeding - long may it continue!

**Written by Vicki Jennings, Assistant Unit Leader, 4th St Luke's Guides.**

## ST LUKE'S LENT PROJECT 2024 - GIVING MUCH NEEDED SUPPORT TO LIMA (PERU) AND SHYIRA (RWANDA)

### THE SCHOOL IN LIMA-PROVIDING A WAY OUT OF THE POVERTY TRAP FOR THE CHILDREN FROM THE SHANTY TOWN

If you stand and look at a hillside on the outskirts of Lima, Peru, there's a shanty town which stretches as far as the eye can see. For the families who live there, life is a daily struggle to survive. Some manage to earn small amounts by doing odd jobs if they are lucky enough to find one. Covid made life even more difficult by putting an end to most of those. Some scavenge for food. Many go hungry. The local church does what it can to help the families. During the Covid outbreak they sent me photos of helpers out on the hillside, stirring huge cauldrons of soup over wood fires to give to the local people.

Long before Covid struck, the daughter of the local pastor, Isabel, realised that unless she did something, the children born into the families living in the shanty town would just be condemned to the same lifestyle as their parents. So, she set up a school. Her aim was to give the children a good education - good enough so they could get good jobs which would enable them to earn a decent wage and climb out of the poverty trap.



(Continued on Page 7)



She stepped forward in faith. The school building (see photo on p6), not purpose built, leaves much to be desired, but the standard of teaching is the best. Isabel employs good teachers. The local authority does provide some funding, but nowhere near enough. Isabel sometimes has to make up the extra from her own pocket when the school funds can't cover the teachers' salaries. Knowing the background to the school, I was amazed when she sent me photos of the senior pupils equipped with safety glasses and lab coats doing an experiment in their science lesson; photos of the under-9 football team proudly holding the cup they had won; photos of infants in front of an audience of their parents doing a sailor's dance; photos of all the things you might expect from a school here in Formby, but certainly not from a school in a shanty town in Lima!

Soon after the school was first opened, Isabel noticed that many children were struggling to concentrate because they were so hungry. So, she decided that she would give them a meal each day, which all adds to the running costs, but the difference it has made to their health and education levels has been tremendous.

Because it's summer in Lima at the moment, the equivalent of our school summer holidays begin at Christmas in Peru. School is closed during January and some of February. This is the time when Isabel and her friends and family do sorting out and basic maintenance work in the school. Building repairs come quite low on the priority list, but sometimes they raise their ugly head - during this year's holidays a huge crack appeared in the ceiling in the younger children's classroom, and then some of the ceiling fell down. Isabel is thankful that the school was closed at the time, so no children were hurt. However, she doesn't have the funds for the repairs at the time I'm writing this, so we're all praying hard!

On a personal note, Isabel was recently ordained deacon in the Anglican church - her husband and father are both ordained, as are other members of her family. I asked her whether this would mean she wouldn't be spending as much time in the school now. Her answer was a most definite, "no!". She is really dedicated to her calling in the school.

I can't think of a more deserving cause for our Lent Project to support!

**Joyce Eddlestone**

## **LENT PROJECT - SHYIRA**

Following our visit to Shyira last October we have been blessed through the strengthening of our relationship with the parishioners of St Mark's, Shyira. We now have a closer understanding of how we can support our brothers and sisters in Christ in Shyira, both financially in support of various projects and of course through our prayers.

Rev Jacques at St Mark's and also Headteacher of Groupe Scolaire Secondary School, Helen Nyirabazungu, Headteacher of the Primary School and Zilpa, Rev Jacques' wife who oversees the Mothers' Union have kindly shared with us three projects for which this year's Lent Project monies could be used to make a big difference.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Groupe Scolaire



Externally, the structure of the school buildings appears to be in a reasonable state, but internally they are in poor condition – for example, the main hall has limited lighting, the science laboratories have no stools, the girls' room is barely usable, the library has limited English books, and the IT equipment is also very limited. The school would

like to be able to have the funds to conduct repairs, purchase essential resources, as well as develop a multi game playground for Basketball, Volleyball and Handball.



## Shyira Primary School

The fabric of the school is poor (doors missing and windows broken) and the school has limited resources to be able to make these repairs. The school struggles to provide the basics such as reading books, pens, pencils, and notebooks. They would like to be able to purchase essential resources and improve the play areas of the school, especially for the younger children by providing swings and sports equipment such as footballs and sports clothing.



## Work of the Mothers' Union (MU)

The Mothers' Union is a crucial lifeline in the Shyira community supporting widows, child-headed families, and Aids victims. Recently, Chantal Mbanda (The Archbishop's wife) has presented the wife of each pastor with a pig to encourage the work of the MU. Zilpa has now developed this into a project by buying another pig and building some pig styes.



When the pigs produce piglets, they will be given to others in the community

and when they reach maturity, sold and the monies used to support vulnerable families. The MU continues to make handicrafts which they then sell; monies from



which are again used to support vulnerable families. They would benefit from items such as sewing machines and materials to enable them to make their crafts.

## John Gelder

**If you would like to support this year's Lent Project – 50:50 split between Lima and Shyira - place your donation in a clearly marked LENT PROJECT envelope and leave on the collection plate at any service or make a donation online. Gift Aid envelopes are also available at the back of church for those eligible. If used, please again write LENT PROJECT on the envelope.**

## **SOUTHPORT SOUP KITCHEN / FOODBANK - A HEARTFELT EASTER EGG / CHOCOLATE APPEAL FROM MAGGIE**

The SSK-FB is now well into 2024 and creeping quickly towards Easter. To committed Christians, Easter has special significance. To chocoholics and children, its significance can lie in another direction.

When we think of those who are homeless, lacking regular meals and normal amounts of food, and children who have no luxuries in their lives, it reminds us of how fortunate we can seem to others in society. I therefore extend an invitation to all in St Luke's parish who have supported us for many years to participate in our Easter egg / chocolate collection this Easter.

As many of you will know at St Luke's I have been absent from Church for a while due to waiting for hip and back surgery. But it hasn't stopped me fundraising and food collecting for this local charity. The charity receives voluntary donations from many sources, and I hope and pray that our generous readers and attendees at St Luke's Church and School, along with Range High School, may feel it appropriate to continue to have regular collections for the guests of the SSK-FB – children and families of low-income who have known nothing but poverty throughout their lives, often through no fault of their own.

Help us, I pray, to give assistance to those who struggle! If information is required, I am very happy to tell you of situations to help them that I have personally witnessed. Remember, it could be us who are struggling.

Weekly donations can still be left in the porch at St Luke's Church or delivered to my home; ring 01704 875532 if the latter to make a suitable arrangement. I can also collect, but my current medical conditions make it difficult for me to lift and restrict my mobility somewhat. Volunteers unload my car when I arrive at the Kitchen with the collections.

My love, my heart, are with this charity, a charity that receives no financial aid, that relies totally on the goodwill of volunteer support and donations from the public, but a charity that gives so much. I hope to give more details in future magazine articles of how the charity actually works.

My eternal thanks and God Bless!

**Maggie Elkington**

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### **THOUGHTS FOR MARCH**

What are you giving up for Lent? Chocolate, by any chance? If so, why not keep on buying it throughout Lent's 40 days, storing it, and then giving it all to the SSK-FB's Easter Chocolate Appeal?

*A Lenten prayer: Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I feel my sins. They bite, chase and frighten me. Where shall I go? I look to You, Lord Jesus Christ, and despite my weakness, I believe in You. I hold fast to You, and I am certain that You said, "Whoever believes in me will have eternal life". (Martin Luther)*

*A prayer for Mother's Day: Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for mothers the world over. We are eternally grateful for all the loving care and affection that they have devoted to us throughout our lives. They are always there ready to wipe away our tears and to take delight in our achievements. They readily forgive us when we mess up and they do their best to teach us what is right from wrong. And when they leave this world, their memory stays in our hearts forever. Amen. (KD)*

It's an early Easter this year, spring seems sooner rather than later. And don't forget, BST begins on Easter Sunday 31st March – but we do lose an hour's sleep! **KD**

## SERVICES FOR MARCH & EASTER 2024

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Lent 3

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am All-age Holy Communion  
(Readings: Jonah 3 & John 2: 13-22)

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

9.15am Holy Communion  
(Readings: Jer 7: 23-28 & Luke 11: 14-23)

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Lent 4 + Mother's Day

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Parade Service  
(Readings: Isa 49: 8-18 & Luke 2: 33-35)

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Lent 5

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Contemporary Service\*  
(Readings: Jonah 4 & John 12: 20-33)

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am Contemporary Service\*  
(Readings: Phil 2: 5-11 & Mark 11: 1-11)

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Maundy Thursday

7.00pm Holy Communion  
(Readings: Ex 12: 1-14 & John 13: 1-17)

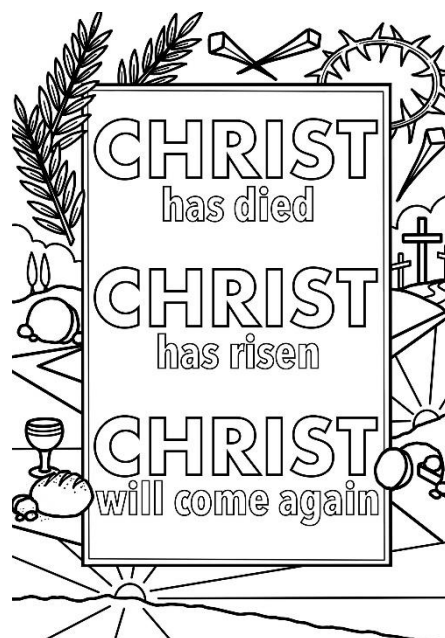
### Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March

9.30am All-age Holy Communion  
(Reading: Matt 27: 45-56)  
(11.00am Passion Play by CTiFAH in  
Formby Pool Gardens)  
2.00pm Reflection  
(Reading: Matt: 26-27)

### Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March

8.30am Traditional Service  
10.30am All-age Holy Communion  
(Readings: Isa 25: 6-9 & Mark 16: 1-8)

(\*Kids@StLuke's - Term time only)



Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship.  
(Romans 12:1 NIV)

## PRAYER FOR MARCH & EASTER 2024

*'.....just as after winter comes spring and after night comes morning, so, most gloriously, after death on Good Friday, comes resurrection on Easter Day!*

**Christ is risen** – and we can know, by the indwelling of his Holy Spirit, that **He is risen indeed!**

Extracts from a prayer by **Daphne Kitching** (Parish Pump)

## WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev Dr Matt Davis
Readers	Mrs Anne Dixon Mrs Jean Watts
Reader Emeritus	Mr Chris Mulford Prof Allan Hobson
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 Valerie Hogben
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 <b>10th</b> 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 evenings likely days, 7.30/7.45pm in MEETING ROOM.

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

**Next What If? Course** – Speak to Matt or email: [revmattdavis@gmail.com](mailto:revmattdavis@gmail.com) for details.

**Refer also to p2 & p3 for further information.**

**Youth Alpha Group** for secondary school students from 7.45-9.00pm each Sun during school term time. Started late January. It is led by Liz & Matt in the MEETING ROOM. It is a relaxed time with a short video. There are pizzas/snacks; games; and a chance to explore and grow our faith in Jesus.

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

**(Toilet facilities available in the Meeting Room throughout all services).**

**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.

**Woodland Workshop** – Contact Peter Griffin (871846) for details – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat am of the month.

**Uniformed Organisations** in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

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

**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.

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## WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN MARCH

**St Luke's Church** – Refer p2 & 3; p10 for Services; p12 What's On; Weekly News Sheets for details.

### **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.
- Bacon Barm & Banter – Mon 4<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30-12noon (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month except Bank Holidays) in the Bier House (on Church site). Free admission.
- Singing Thursdays! (except for 1st Thurs of the month) in the parish hall - 2pm (doors open 1.45pm) and finish approx. 3.30pm. Free entry and refreshments. Everyone welcome – especially carers and their loved ones.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Singing for Fun.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Singing is Good for Your Brain!
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Singalong with Ian & Geraldine.
- Relaxed Service at 2.30pm on Sun 24<sup>th</sup> March. This is a shorter half hour service with traditional hymns and readings. Especially suitable for those living in nursing homes, carers and loved ones. Refreshments in the Bier House afterwards.

### **Formby Methodist**

- FM are celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and are marking it with several events throughout the year at Elbow Lane. There are 3 events in March.
  - Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm – Three Formby Artists, an illustrated talk by Joan Rimmer and Stephen Gerrard (not the footballer).
  - Tues 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm – G: Force Gospel Choir, Formby.
  - Sun 31<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30am – Easter Sunday Celebration Service, Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson, Chair of Liverpool Methodist District.
- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (5<sup>th</sup> March) 2-4pm.
- The Carers' Support Group meets every Fri afternoon 2.00-4.00pm at the Methodist Church. Contact Irene for further information: tel 876219 or via email on p16 for Formby Befriending Scheme.

**No One's A Stranger Twice**  
**150 Years of Methodism in the Formby Community**  
by  
local author  
**Alastair Gillies**

*"It was not until I had the privilege of reading this carefully researched and thoughtfully written book, beautifully illustrated, that I came to realise the breadth and depth of the history of Formby Methodist Church within the Formby community. Enjoy! You are in for a treat."* (Rev Dr Sheryl Anderson, Chair of Liverpool Methodist District)

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(all proceeds to Church funds)

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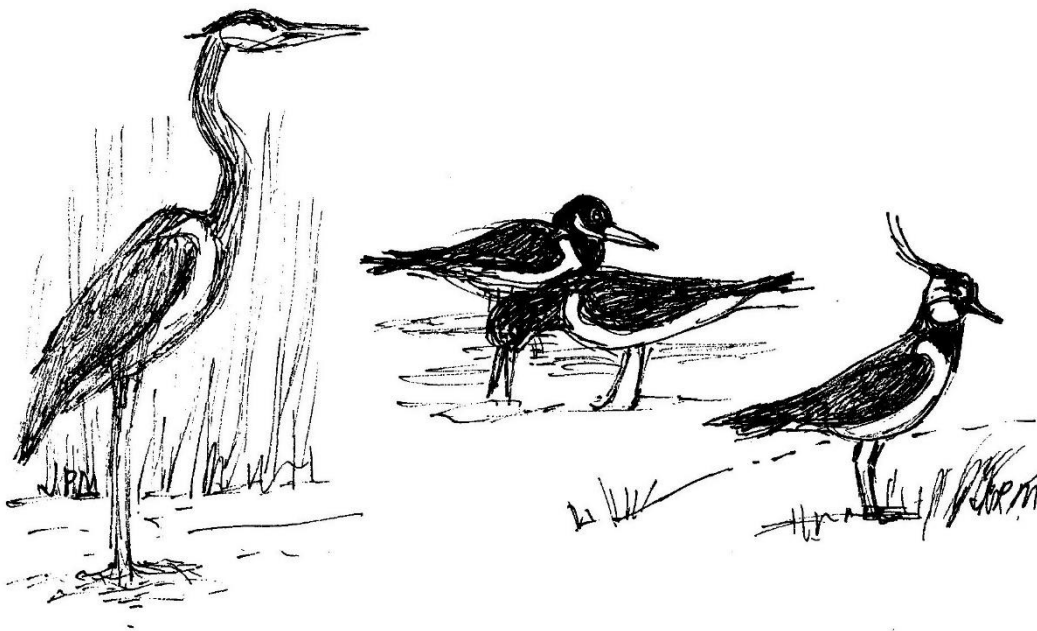
(Continued on Page 16)



## LUNT MEADOWS NATURE RESERVE - RUN BY LANCS WILDLIFE TRUST

This spectacular wetland nature reserve, nestled along the meandering River Alt in North Merseyside, wasn't always the wildlife wonderland it is today. Between 2012 and 2014 it was intensively farmed arable land, and only when it was bought by the Environment Agency for development as a flood storage reservoir (that would double as a nature reserve) did Lunt Meadows become a real destination for bird-lovers.

Spring and summer see the water burst into life as breeding waders flock to the reserve in huge numbers. Lapwings, redshank, dunlin and oystercatchers jostle for position with herons and egrets – we have even had little ringed plovers and avocets breeding at Lunt Meadows. But these aren't the only water birds to put on a show. Other sightings have included everything from teal, gadwall and ruff to snipe and black-tailed godwits.



(Drawings by Joan MacDonald)

The carpark is open from 9.30am to 5pm. In the summer you can park in the lay-by on the opposite side of the road. PLEASE KEEP DOGS ON A LEAD!

### LUNT MEADOWS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Run by the Museum of Liverpool, Lunt Meadows is a place where nomadic stone-age people built and lived in some of the first houses in Britain, around 8,000 years ago. The remains of a building on the site gave a radio-carbon dating of 5,800 BC. The settlement of these hunter-gatherers seems to have been well organised and many primitive tools have been found. If you google "Lunt Meadows Archaeological Site" you will find a wealth of interesting information.

The site was excavated about 10 years ago and during the excavations a group from Formby Civic Society was given a guided tour. We suspect that there is no interpretation board set up to give information on-site. Perhaps someone can verify this?

At the moment the nature reserve is not accessible for wheelchairs, mobility scooters and buggies but the Trust is hoping to remedy this situation – at least partly – in the not-too-distant future.

**Margaret Cooke**

## ST LUKE'S CHARITIES

***St Luke's PCC continue to donate 10% of the monies received through voluntary giving each year to eleven different charities. This is one of an occasional series of articles highlighting the work of one of those charities.***

### **EMBRACE the Middle East**

Each month at the St Luke's Prayer Meeting, Matt provides a short presentation on the work of one of the charities that St Luke's supports and invites us to pray for it. For the January meeting, he had selected Embrace the Middle East, an organisation which we have supported for many years but whose work sadly seems even more necessary as the news headlines are dominated by the ongoing hostilities in Gaza. There was a feeling of sadness as we are conscious that these are the lands in which so much of the Bible is rooted.

#### **How did Embrace start?**

There has long been a need for support for the Christian communities in the Middle East. Embrace was founded in 1854 as the Turkish Missions Aid Society, working with Armenian Christians. In 1893, the name was changed to BibleLands Missions Aid Society as the area in which the charity worked was extended, and finally to Embrace the Middle East in 2012.

#### **Where does Embrace work now?**

The list of countries in which Embrace works have all witnessed traumatic events in recent years: international war, civil war, earthquakes, floods. The impact of some of these events can last for years as it takes time to rebuild communities and facilities. The countries are: Iraq, Syria, Israel/Palestine, Egypt and Lebanon.

#### **Who does Embrace help?**

Embrace works with Christians in marginalised communities in the Middle East, partnering with local organisations. The projects may be practical in nature, such as providing refuge after disasters or healthcare, with a particular focus on providing specialist services for the disabled. Others centre around education and human rights advocacy.

We may feel overwhelmed by the enormity of the suffering that we see on our television screens and powerless to know what can be done in the face of longstanding and apparently irreconcilable conflicts, but others are called to work in these difficult situations and need our prayers as well as financial support. Embrace publish a series of prayer diaries: more information can be found on their website, [embraceme.org](http://embraceme.org).

**Hillary Griffin**

.....

## PRAYER FOR DEMENTIA

Heavenly Father, we stand with those who have all forms of dementia and their carers. We pray for them to know your love, your peace, your hope and your compassion. We pray for all our churches to be places of solidarity, of welcome, of inclusion and acceptance, and we pray for all who work and volunteer to help and support those with dementia and their carers. Amen

(A general prayer for the national week of prayer for dementia which runs from 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March sent in by **Hillary Griffin** and from a recent Deanery Synod meeting)



## Outstanding care centre in Formby

Are you or a loved one finding it increasingly difficult to manage independently and looking for a warm, cosy and safe new community to call home?

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*"The care and attention is excellent. All the staff treat mum with great care and respect and ensure her dignity is not compromised in any way."*

*"I was amazed at the standard of Formby Manor having visited care homes when my husband required nursing care. It is far superior to any I have seen."*

*"I cannot praise this home enough. The care given and the commitment to the wellbeing of the residents is second to none. Thank you."*

For further information, or to make an appointment to view **Formby Manor** contact the team on 01704 339090 or email [enquiries@newcarehomes.com](mailto:enquiries@newcarehomes.com)

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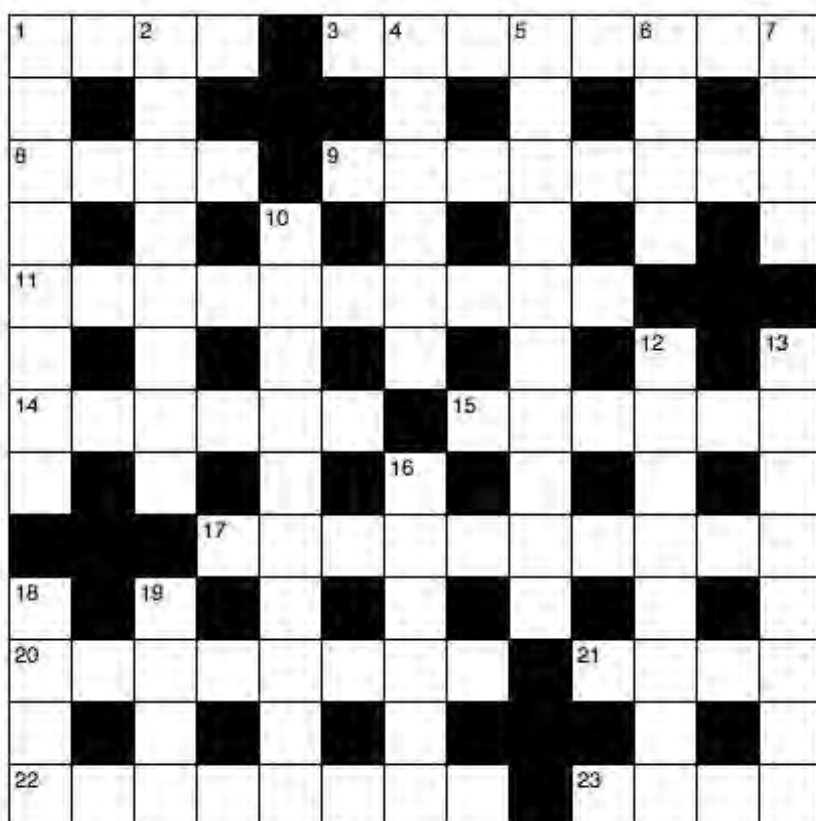
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Phone No: 07926 587776



## CROSSWORD



### Across

- 1 Made from the fruit of the vine, symbol of the blood of Christ (4)  
 3 'You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don't go very far from it. All of you be on — —' (Joshua 8:4) (3,5)  
 8 Seep (4)  
 9 Celebrated by Jesus on the night of his betrayal (Luke 22:15) (8)  
 11 One of the supposed sites of Christ's burial place in Jerusalem (6,4)  
 14 'A city on a hill — be hidden' (Matthew 5:14) (6)  
 15 He inherited Elijah's mantle (2 Kings 2:12-13) (6)  
 17 Where Jesus prayed 'Not as I will, but as

you will' (Matthew 26:36, 39) (10)

20 'Only in his own town and in his — — is a prophet without honour' (Matthew 13:57) (3,5)

21 Sail (anag.) (4)

22 How Jesus was punished before his crucifixion (Matthew 27:26) (8)

23 Eye sore (4)

### Down

1 Can't grow (anag.) (5,3)

2 A servant girl to Peter, 'You also were with that —, Jesus' (Mark 14:67) (8)

4 Well-being (Proverbs 3:8) (6)

5 Pentecostal denomination, — of God (10)

6 One of the 'obvious' acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19, 21) (4)

7 'I preached that they should repent and — to God' (Acts 26:20) (4)

10 '— —, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me' (John 14:19) (6,4)

12 He betrayed Jesus: Judas — (Luke 6:16) (8)

13 Jesus to Peter: '— — of my sheep' (John 21:16) (4,4)

16 The centurion said, 'Surely this man was — — of God' (Mark 15:39) (3,3)

18 Baked bread (Mark 8:14) (4)

19 'Blessing and honour, glory and power, be — Him' (Handel's Messiah) (4)

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

**SMILE LINES** – This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

# SUDOKU

EASY

MEDIUM

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

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

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(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

## WORDSEARCH

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

### Love and serve one another

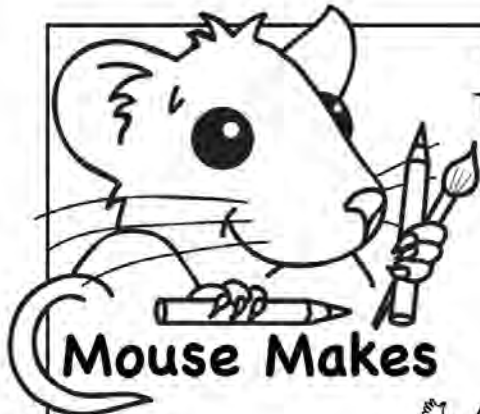
On Maundy Thursday we recall the final command that Jesus gave to His disciples before His death. After the Last Supper, He rose and washed His disciples' feet. This was astonishing for a 'teacher' to do, but He had a firm purpose in mind: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The 'washing of the feet' ceremony was an important part of the medieval

church's liturgy, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

- |          |           |             |         |            |
|----------|-----------|-------------|---------|------------|
| Maundy   | Disciples | Feet        | Loved   | Domination |
| Thursday | Death     | Astonishing | You     | Latin      |
| Final    | Last      | Purpose     | Must    | Ceremony   |
| Command  | Supper    | Teacher     | One     | Medieval   |
| Jesus    | Washed    | As          | Another | Humility   |
|          |           |             | Service | Obedience  |





# Mouse Makes

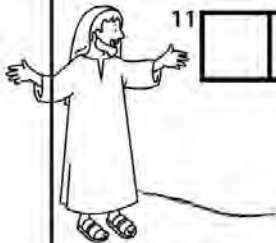
*Matthew 21:1-11*

1. Which city did Jesus ride into?
2. What did he ride on?
3. What did the crowd shout?
4. What did clothes did they put down?
7. What did they cut down to spread on the road?



*Matthew 26:17-29*

15. What feast did Jesus celebrate?
12. Who did he celebrate it with?
11. What did Jesus break to eat?



*Matthew 26:36-75*

6. What did Jesus go to do at Gethsemane?
18. Who denied Jesus?



*Matthew 26:14-16*

- 8d. Who betrayed Jesus?
10. How many silver pieces was he paid?



*Matthew 28:1-10*

5. Who descended from heaven?
19. What had happened to Jesus?
- 8a. Mary was full of fear and ...?



"I am the **resurrection** and the **life**.  
The one who believes in me will live  
even though they die."

*John 1:25*



READ the Bible passages to find the answers to the crossword clues

A crossword puzzle grid with various words filled in. The words include: 'JERUSALEM' (1 across), 'DONKEY' (2 across), 'HOSANNA' (3 across), 'PALM' (4 across), 'PASSOVER' (6 across), 'BREAD' (7 across), 'LAST SUPPER' (8a across), 'GETHSEMANE' (8d across), 'DENIED' (11 across), 'GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE' (12 across), 'CRUCIFIED' (13 across), 'WRAPPED IN BANDAGES' (14 across), 'BETRAYED' (15 across), 'SILVER' (16 across), 'ANGELS' (17 across), 'TOMB' (18 across), and 'ROSEMARY' (19 across).

# SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY

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

MEDIUM

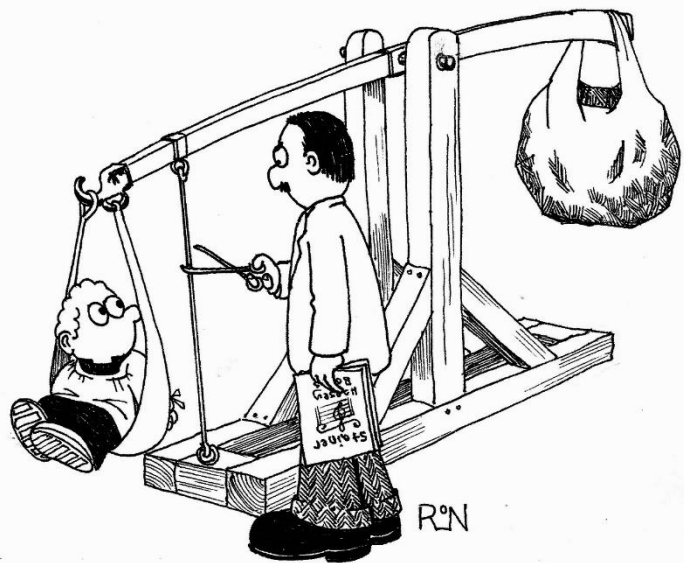
3	6	7	2	9	1	5	8	4
9	1	2	5	8	4	6	3	7
4	8	5	6	3	7	2	1	9
8	5	6	7	1	2	9	4	3
7	3	9	8	4	5	1	6	2
2	4	1	3	6	9	7	5	8
5	7	4	1	2	3	8	9	6
1	9	8	4	7	6	3	2	5
6	2	3	9	5	8	4	7	1

# CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

**ACROSS:** 1, Wine. 3, The alert. 8, Ooze. 9, Passover. 11, Garden Tomb. 14, Cannot. 15, Elisha. 17, Gethsemane. 20, Own house. 21, Lisa. 22, Flogging. 23, Styne.

**DOWN:** 1, Wrong act. 2, Nazarene. 4, Health. 5, Assemblies. 6, Envy. 7, Turn. 10, Before long. 12, Iscariot. 13, Take care. 16, The Son. 18, Loaf. 19, Unto.

.....



*Toby persistently sang flat*



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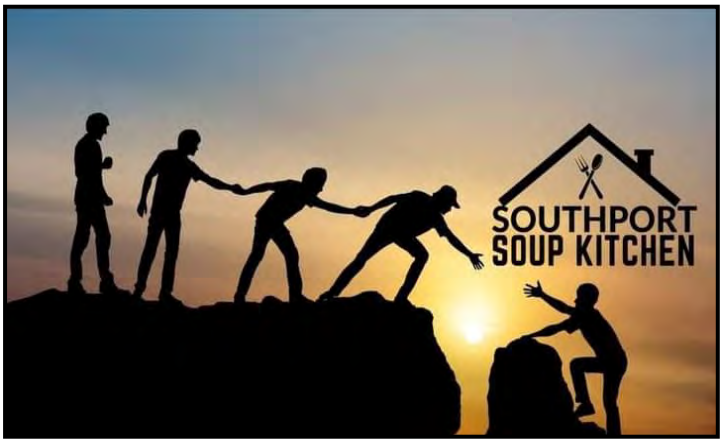
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