

St. Luke's Formby

November

2025

Parish Magazine

Price: £1.50 per issue

Cheaper by annual subscription

£12.00 for 10 issues a year



**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

Revelation 4:8





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:

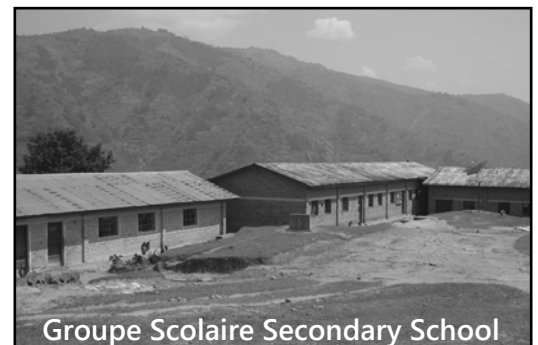
- To extend the MU support across Kivu Diocese
- To work through the Gisenyi MU to help the most needy parts of the Diocese



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

Dear Friends

As a child growing up in Northern Ireland, I used to get very confused by the Creed we said each Sunday in church. The Creed is a statement of things Christians believe about God. For example, as we recite it, we say we believe in God the Father who is the “creator of heaven and earth” and that Jesus Christ “was crucified, died and was buried”, but “on the third day he rose again”. The statement that puzzled me the most is in the third section, just after we declare we believe in the Holy Spirit: we declare that we believe in “the holy catholic church”. I would look around and see all these protestant believers in my Church of Ireland church loudly declaring they believed in the catholic church—how could they say that?!



I eventually realised that “catholic” just means “universal” or “worldwide”. The Roman Catholic church is therefore the worldwide church based in Rome, under the Pope. The Creed is talking about something different: the holy catholic church is made up of all Christians, all around the world. As long as someone believes and trusts in Jesus, they are part of this holy worldwide church, they are part of something much bigger than their parish, their nation or even their denomination.

As last month’s magazine was going to print, we had a very special visitor staying with us at the vicarage, someone I’d met two years ago in Rwanda: Reverend Canon Emmanuel Ndimukaga. Canon Emmanuel was visiting St. Luke’s for almost three weeks. He’s currently writing a book about his ministry with a chapter on the links between St. Luke’s Church, Formby and St. Mark’s Church, Shyira, of which he was the minister for many years, and he wanted to write some of it while visiting. As many reading this will know, our church’s link with Shyira parish began 25 years ago when Prof Allan Hobson visited and was greatly moved by what he saw. In the years since, numerous people from Formby have visited Shyira and quite a few from Shyira have visited Formby. People in Formby have raised money for a maternity building, new school buildings, a new hospital and equipment, plus many other projects. But I don’t want to focus on these projects.

The joy of visiting Shyira two years ago, and the joy of having Canon Emmanuel visit, is the joy of being part of the holy catholic church: these Rwandan Christians are our brothers and sisters. Meeting up with them is more than just meeting old or new friends, it’s more like going to a family reunion or being reunited with long-lost family members: they are our family. The apostle Paul shares a similar sentiment when he begins his letter to the Philippians (1:3,4,7,8):

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ... it is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart ... God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

My grandfather was a Presbyterian Missionary in Malawi for 11 years. He wrote a book about his time there called “Send us Friends”, quoting a Malawian church leader. Once the church was established, the thing they desired most was friendship. Allan Hobson’s book has a similar theme to its title: “Linking Parishes, Harvesting Friendship”.

The biggest gift we can give (or receive!) is not money for projects. The biggest gift is friendship: experiencing the joy of being part of the holy catholic church. I’m looking forward to seeing how our friendship with our brothers and sisters in Shyira blossoms in the coming years and decades.

With every blessing, **Matt**

Joint Editors: Margaret Cooke (email: macooke29@gmail.com) and Ken Davies (email: kendavies1989@gmail.com).

CHURCH REGISTER FOR OCTOBER

Funeral: Jean Street – 16th October

Baptisms: Alina and Elise Furlong – 19th October

.....

NOTICES

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 Adult Officer.

Together@StLukes - (walk at 2.00pm). Sat 1st Nov.

Breakfast 9.30am & return of shoeboxes – Sun 2nd Nov.

All Saints Day – Sat 1st Nov.

All Souls Day – Sun 2nd Nov.

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church – Sun 2nd Nov.

Remembrance Sunday – Sun 9th Nov.

Armistice Day – Tues 11th Nov.

St Andrew's Day – Sun 30th Nov.

PCC Meeting – Wed 26th Nov 7.30pm.

Shyira Trust AGM – POSTPONED from Sun 2nd Nov to Sun 23rd Nov 12.15pm in Church Meeting Room.

General Donations to the Shyira Trust – please hand directly to Trust secretary Ken Davies (07793 613 582) and do NOT leave on the offertory plate. Many thanks. Use Gift Aid envelopes labelled Shyira Trust from back of church if applicable.

Southport Soup Kitchen & Harvest – see p5.

St Luke's School Nativity Art Competition – commences after Oct half-term.

Association Formby Artists Autumn Exhibition – see p17 for details.

New course starting in Nov – 'Life According to Jesus in 3, 2, 1 ...' Leaflets available from the back of church. Further information regarding dates and times refer to Weekly News Sheet.

NOTICES CONTINUED

Tuesday Lunch – Soup/sandwiches/cake & company. 4th & 18th Nov, 12noon, in church Meeting Room. Donations for lunch welcome. **Anne**

Open Doors Saturdays before Christmas – Nov 8th & 22nd and Dec 6th, 10-12noon. Open for tea/coffee/cake & a chat.

Our Macmillan coffee morning in Sept was a great success. Our amazing cake bakers filled more than one table and the Meeting Room was filled with customers. £220.33 was raised. A big thank you to all who donated.

Don't forget our Christmas Crafts on Sat Nov 22nd.

Come along and join us. We have a large table for those who want to join together, and small ones if you want to have your own space. Whatever you choose you will be made welcome.

Jean

Skills & Experience Audit – Ongoing. The churchwardens really would appreciate your knowledge and expertise and willingness to help. Forms are still available from the back of church and to be returned to **Jean Cox**.

Shoebox Appeal – Boxes to be returned to church on/by Sun 2nd Nov. If that is not convenient please contact **David Moore** on 01704 875101 to arrange collection/delivery.

Compassion Acts 2025 Pound Appeal – by donating as little as £1 a month you can help continue to provide free support to those experiencing poverty and hardship. Government funding has ceased this year, so they are relying more on public help. Go to: www.compassionactsuk/donate/ for more details. Compassion Acts is a local charity based in Southport and is one of the annual charities currently supported by St. Luke's.



FORMBY CHORAL SOCIETY

Fauré – Requiem

Nunez-Garcia - Missa

Pastoril

7.30pm SATURDAY NOV. 8TH

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

Freshfield Rd L37 3HW

Tickets - £15 – under 19s free
available online – www.trybooking.co.uk/789789
or phone 07706 017221



ST. LUKE'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Welcome to St. Luke's, a school where learning, success, and mutual respect are at the heart of everything we do. We are more than just a place of education—we are a family, where strong, caring relationships underpin everything we do.

At St. Luke's, we take great pride in supporting every child to reach their full potential and achieve all that they can.

OFSTED 2024 "Pupils enjoy their learning and they are happy at school."

to learn, to succeed, to value one another

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

9:30AM - 11:00AM

1:30PM - 2:30PM

Book your place via our open day email:

openday@slf.sefton.school

- ▶ **ROOTS AND SHOOTS**
Join us on Wednesdays 9:15 - 10:45 for our weekly baby & toddler group.
- ▶ **BREAKFAST, AFTER-SCHOOL AND HOLIDAY CLUB**



MORE INFORMATION

📞 01704 872692

📍 Jubilee Road, Formby
L37 2HW

🌐 admin@slf.sefton.school

🌐 www.stlukes-formby.co.uk/

HARVEST AT ST. LUKE'S



On Monday October 6th the Y3 children from St. Luke's School led the Harvest service at church. They focused on their year group's Christian value of 'thankfulness', giving thanks to all those who work hard to ensure we have food on the table. The whole school also donated a range of dried and tinned

foods to help those in our local community.

Y3 Team

The local community just happens to be the Southport Soup Kitchen of course, and along with the church donations, all donations were duly delivered two days later on the Wednesday. Delivery driver and ex-churchwarden Steve Ginn (pictured below) said, "the food items dropped off filled much of the shop floor". Staff member Eileen Kenyon took the photos below and wrote on the Soup Kitchen WhatsApp Group: *"Massive Harvest Festival donations from the church & St. Luke's CE Primary together with a cash donation & generous Gift Aid donation. Many grateful thanks from us all at Southport Soup Kitchen & thanks to Steve Ginn for delivering such a hefty load! & thanks & good wishes to Maggie Elkington who is out of action at the moment, but one of our loyal supporters. Get well soon. THANK YOU everyone xx"*.



And the final word from Maggie: "I humbly thank all those who have supported our Harvest collection for the Southport Soup Kitchen, known by many as 'The Soupie', looking after many in need. I pray I won't be out of things too long (after my fall and broken wrist) and am eager to get back as soon as possible. Thank you everyone! God Bless.

Maggie

BACK TO SCHOOL FOR REVEREND MATT



On Thursday October 9th, Reverend Matt came into St. Luke's Primary to talk about some very important issues with Year 6. The year group are looking at 'What World Faiths Say When Life Gets Tough' within their RE lessons. This topic brings us onto the subject of life and death. The children have already begun to look at how certain beliefs differ in different world faiths. Reverend Matt came in for a special visit.

He discussed Jesus' crucifixion on the cross and read from the Bible to quote the scripture directly, giving God's word on Heaven and what Christians need to do to get there. The children came up with some fantastic questions and Reverend Matt was able to answer them in an honest, clear and child-friendly way. A big thank you to Matt from all of Year 6 children and staff for giving up his time.

Year 6 Team

.....

A BIG "THANK YOU" FROM PERU



I have recently had the pleasure of sending the sum of £1350, the result of this year's Lent Project, to Isabel Montoya who runs a school for the children who live in a shanty town in Lima, Peru. She, together with her whole family, has asked me to thank everyone who contributed to our Lent Project. They are extremely grateful to you all. Isabel constantly has a battle to make ends meet with the school's running costs; but it is worth it. Without education, the children would have no chance of climbing out of the poverty trap which they find themselves in.

Although the building might not be the best, the standard of education is high. Isabel pays for good teachers. She also provides a midday meal, as she noticed many children came to school hungry and were therefore unable to concentrate. The standards went up when she started providing a meal - but so did the costs!

Isabel grew up not far from the shanty town. Her father was the local vicar. He's now retired but although in his seventies he still helps in worship and in the building repair work. I've even seen a photo of him wielding a pneumatic drill when the need was there! Isabel's husband is now the local vicar and plays a part in the school's worship.

The school was always a step forward in faith and will continue to be; and the change it makes to the children's lives is beyond measure. Thank you all for your help.

Joyce Eddlestone

CANON EMMANUEL'S VISIT

Canon Emmanuel's visit in September/October epitomised the title of Professor Allan Hobson's recent book titled *Linking Parishes, Harvesting Friendship*. The photos on this page illustrate some of the connections – old and new - which he was able to make.



Left – Reunion with retired St. Luke's Vicar Canon Alison Woodhouse

Middle – With Professor Allan Hobson

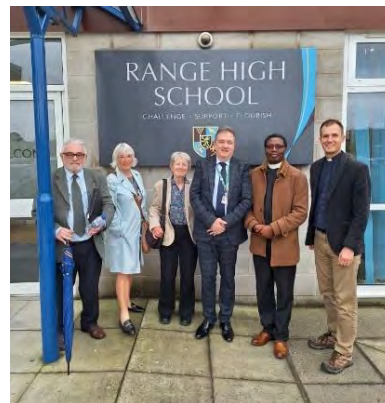
Right – With Matt and Lay Reader Jean Watts



With the PCC



With the Shyira Trust



With Mrs Karen Allen (HT St. Luke's Primary) With Mr Mike McGarry (HT Range HS)

During his stay Emmanuel was hosted by church members Pam and Mike Thomas, John Gelder and Matt, along with their respective families. Well done to John who did a tremendous job in organising a full programme for Emmanuel – and to the many who helped along the way!

(There will be a follow-up article on Emmanuel's visit in our next Dec/Jan issue.)

KD

THE NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY



Dame Sarah Mullally has been named as the new Archbishop of Canterbury designate - the first woman to be chosen for the role.

A former NHS chief nurse, she became a priest in 2006 and was appointed as the first female Bishop of London in 2018 - the third most senior member of clergy in the Church of England.

She used her first public statement on Friday October 3rd to condemn the "horrific violence" of Thursday's deadly attack on a synagogue in Manchester, saying "hatred and racism cannot tear us apart".

While, technically, the King is Head of the Church of England, the person holding the role of Archbishop of Canterbury is the most senior bishop and is the spiritual leader of the Church and the worldwide Anglican Communion.

King Charles has congratulated Dame Sarah on her new role, "which is of such importance in the UK and across the global Anglican Communion", Buckingham Palace said.

She does not legally take on her new role until a confirmation of election in January, and an enthronement service comes later, after they have paid homage to the King.

Speaking from Canterbury Cathedral on Friday October 3rd, she said that "in an age that craves certainty and tribalism, Anglicanism offers something quieter but stronger".

She promised to confront safeguarding failures which had "left a legacy of deep harm and mistrust", saying "we must all be willing to have light shone on our actions, regardless of our role in the Church".

Talking about the "horrific violence" of the attack on a synagogue in Manchester, she said "we are witnessing hatred that rises up through fractures across our communities. We then as a Church have a responsibility to be a people who stand with the Jewish community against antisemitism in all its forms. Hatred and racism of any kind cannot be allowed to tear us apart."

Married with two children, she spent over 35 years in the NHS, becoming the youngest-ever chief nursing officer for England in 1999.

Although she was volunteering in the Church at the time, it was just a few years later that she decided to become a priest and was quickly tasked with helping make reforms in the way the institution dealt with abuse.

In 2012 she became canon treasurer at Salisbury Cathedral before becoming Bishop of Crediton in the diocese of Exeter in 2015. As Bishop of London, she was seen as someone who used her experience as an NHS administrator to help modernise the diocese.

Margaret Cooke (from a report on the BBC website)

REMEMBRANCE



It's that time of the year when we remember those killed fighting for their country, or cause, in notably the two world wars of the last century. But our thoughts today in the 21st Century are increasingly expanded to include all suffering in today's conflicts with Ukraine, Gaza and The Sudan readily springing to mind. Can any war ever be labelled 'a just war'? I will leave that for you to ponder upon.

To my mind, the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal is something that is well worth supporting – a lifeline for thousands of serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. So please give generously.

The following account has been researched by long-standing church member **Bob Wagstaff** and is of the last hours of fusilier Fred Skirvin, aged 28, in January 1945. Fred was Bob's cousin.

26th Jan. *This morning a patrol of 2 sergeants, 9 ORs and 2 SBs from C Company set off from Banwe (Burma) towards the bunker position at 815662. After they had advanced to within 50 metres of the position, they struck off west into paddy fields where from approx. 820663 position they opened up fire in an attempt to draw the Japanese fire. There was no reply, whereupon the patrol advanced towards the bunker again. About 50 metres short of their objective rifle fire opened up, killing one fusilier. The patrol withdrew a short distance and then tried to retrieve the body of their comrade. Accurate light machine gunfire frustrated all their attempts. As it was impossible to bring effective fire on to the enemy – of whom only one had actually been seen – the patrol withdrew to Banwe where they reported at 12.00 hrs.*

1st Feb. *The month opened with the battalion disposed to follow A and C companies. Adm and Sp groups with B HQ in Doungbon; B and D companies in Banwe.*

This afternoon saw the final episode in the history of the notorious bunker position 815662 which has given so much trouble to the Banwe patrols during the latter half of January. At 13.00 hrs a patrol of 16 ORs (B Company) with 2 REs reced down the south part of the track from Banwe and found the position clear. It consisted of 2 bunker positions, 3 machine gun pits, and numerous foxholes, most of which the patrols blew up or filled in without further ado. One enemy body was found, in addition to one of our own men killed on a previous patrol. After a thorough examination of the area the patrol continued to the Mongmit road and thence as far as the 46th in S. The whole of the area seemed quite clear of the enemy. The patrol returned by the same route, reporting in at 17.00 hrs.

(OR – other ranks; RE - Royal Engineers; SB – stretcher bearer).

Thought any more about the doctrine of 'a just war'?

Editors

.....

THOUGHT FOR NOVEMBER

My thoughts in November always drift back to childhood in smoky Liverpool and Bonfire Night. As a child Remembrance Sunday was never much on my mind, despite it being not long after the end of the second World War. Playing 'footie' in the street (not many cars around in those days) and collecting fireworks for 'Bommy Night' were my priorities.

As the years went by Remembrance Sunday became increasingly more significant to me, especially with the loss of a family member in May 1944, also in the Burma Campaign like Bob's cousin Fred in the above article. You never forget, but we must always forgive! **KD**

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Sunday 2nd November – All Saints

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am All-age Holy Communion
(Readings: Matt 22:34-40 & Luke 6:20-31)
4.00pm Memorial Service

Thursday 6th November

11.00am Holy Communion
(Readings: Rom 14:7-12 & Luke 15:1-10)

Sunday 9th November - Remembrance

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Parade
(Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5 & Luke 20:27-38)

Sunday 16th November – 2 bef. Advent

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service
with Holy Communion*
(Readings: 1 Cor 5 & Luke 21:5-19)

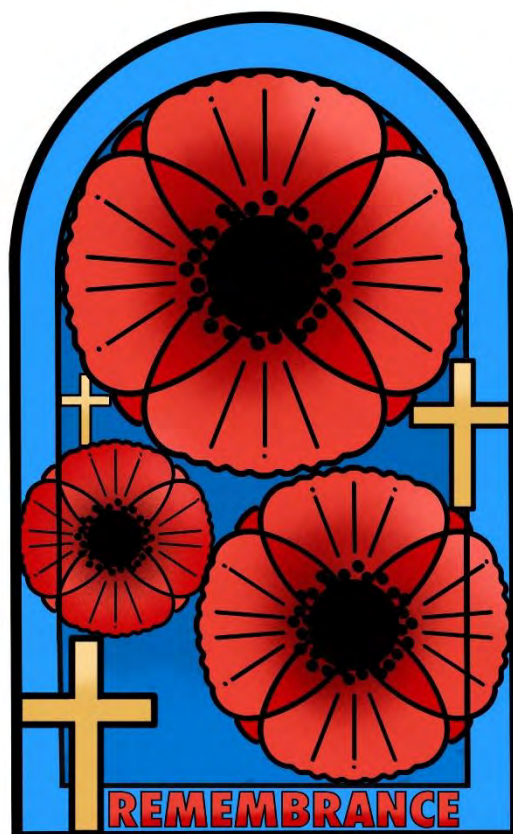
Sunday 23rd November – 1 bef. Advent

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: 1 Cor 6 & Luke 23:33-43)

Sunday 30th November – Advent 1

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: TBC)

(*with Children's Church)



“Holy, holy, holy
Is the Lord God Almighty,
Who was, and is, and is to come.”
(Revelation 4:8 NIV)

Prayer for November

Heavenly Father,

Here we are in November – the month of short, dark days. A dreary, difficult month, unless you have a birthday! Lord, it seems as if the world is permanently in November at the moment. So much is so difficult for so many people, through no fault of their own. And it seems to go on and on.

Lord, would You bring your healing light into the world's darkness. Bring transformation, compassion and a softening into the hearts of those with responsibility for the conflict and the suffering, that they might work for peace for all people. We know that nothing is impossible for you, Lord, so we pray in faith – and in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching (PP)

WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev Dr Matt Davis
Readers	Mrs Anne Dixon Mrs Jean Watts
Reader Emeritus	Prof Allan Hobson
Churchwardens	Mrs Fiona Grieveson Dr David Hogben
Deputy Churchwarden	Mr John McGibbon
Treasurer	Mr Hugh Dixon
Deputy Treasurer	Mrs Gwyneth Croft
PCC Secretary	Mrs Allyson Jump
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 Meeting Room Secretary	Churchwarden/s 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 Magazine Adverts Magazine Collation	Mrs Margaret Cooke Mrs Margaret Cooke Mr David Moore
Church and Churchyard Maintenance	Contact Wardens for information
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, 7.30/7.45pm in MEETING ROOM.

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

Children @ St. Luke's – Pre-Schoolers, Primary and Secondary – catered for every Sunday at 10.30am service. Refer Weekly News Sheet for details.

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

Parish Breakfast – Most first Sundays of the month 9.30am between services.

Woodland Workshop – Contact Peter Griffin (871846) for details – 2nd Sat am of the month.

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.

Uniformed Organisations in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

Division Secretary for Girlguiding, Formby Sheila Kirk 875393

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides – Central waiting list (<http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/> for information). Enquiries via Sheila Kirk 875393

Brownie Guides @ St. Luke's

4 th Formby	Monday	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
	(In Meeting Room)			

Guides @ St. Luke's

4 th Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
------------------------	-----------	--------	-------------	--------

Beavers	Thursday	5.45pm	John Gelder	876456
	(In Meeting Room)		(Beavers8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	

Cub Scouts	Thursday	6.45pm	Bob Ford	873026
	(In Meeting Room)		(Cubs8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	

Group Scout Leader		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), Hugh Dixon (Treasurer), Allyson Jump (Secretary), Fiona Grieveson (Co-Warden), Dr. David Hogben (Co-Warden).

Other PCC Members are Andrew Cox, Debbie Davies, Ken Davies, Ann Dennison, Anne Dixon, John Gelder, Hillary Griffin, Prof. Allan Hobson, Jean Mainey, Chris Payne, Michael Roberts, Jean Watts.

FORMBY GP

Private, ethical General Practice



Dr Heather Ryan
MRCGP
MA (Oxon), MBBS,
MSc (Distinction)

Services

- Private GP consultations
- Joint injections
- Covid vaccination service
- Covid & flu tests
- Blood tests
- Pregnancy anti-D tests
- ECG, 24 hour BP

Why choose us?

- Longer appointments
- Experienced GPs
- Independent, impartial advice
- NHS and private referrals



Dr John Cosgrove
FRCGP
MBBS Lon, DRCOG,
DFFP, Cert. Med. Ed.

Weight loss treatments from £170/month! in partnership with RZ Fitness

- Discuss your options with our weight loss doctor, Dr Cosgrove
- Medical assessment and support
- Optional blood tests
- Personalised diet and lifestyle support with RZ Fitness' Yamina Zertal

RZ
FITNESS



www.FormbyGP.com
01704 617050

To advertise in this
magazine please
contact
Margaret Cooke
Tel 01704 876325



PEST CONTROL Wasps, mice, rats etc

Phone **J. E. Alvey**
01704 213025

TOWER HEATING
Your Local Worcester Bosch Accredited Partner
01704 834363
The largest, most reliable, independent heating company in the region

BOOK YOUR **FREE SURVEY TODAY**

Here for you:
8am - 8pm
365 days a year

Facebook Instagram X

12 YEAR Guarantee

- ✓ No Deposit
- ✓ Buy Now, Pay Later or
- ✓ Interest Free Finance
- ✓ Reliable and Trusted Aftercare

READ OUR REVIEWS Google

Keeping Formby warm since 1990

WORCESTER Accredited Partner
BOSCH

Grave certainties:

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man with no family or friends. The service was to be at a cemetery some distance away. As I was not familiar with the area, I got lost and finally arrived an hour late. The funeral director and hearse were long gone. There were only the diggers left, and they were eating lunch. I went to the side of the grave and looked down. The lid was partially covered with soil. The diggers stared at me over their sandwiches, and I sensed from their reproach that I had deserted this dead man in his final hour of need. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play.

The diggers looked quite startled at this and put down their lunches. But they stood quietly enough while I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. And as I played 'Amazing Grace', the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together.

When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head hung low, my heart was full. As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen nothin' like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years".

Apparently, I'm still lost....

(PP)

WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN NOVEMBER

St. Luke's Church – refer p2 & 3; p10 for Services; p12 What's On; weekly news sheet.

Formby Pantry Welcome Space - in the Activity Centre behind the Gild Hall, Church Road, on Thursdays from 11.00 – 1.00pm. Tea, coffee and cakes are provided as well as a light lunch. No charge but donations are gratefully appreciated. All are welcome.

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

Formby Library (01704 874177) – Mon to Fri 10.00-4.30pm and Sat 10.00-1.30pm – regular activities and events as usual throughout Nov but check Library for details.

- Wed Nov 19th is the date for 'Loved and Lost', 11.30-1.00pm.
- Spaces are filling up fast for the Ukulele Course for beginners in Nov. Every Tues 2-3pm (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th). Places must be booked with staff at the Library or over the phone. Ukuleles can be borrowed from the Library.
- The talk at 2pm on Wed 26th Nov is called 'The English Village in Tudor and Stuart Times' and can be booked with staff at the Library or over the phone.

.....

Editor of PP: With Remembrance Sunday in mind....

A great war leaves the country with three armies – an army of cripples, an army of mourners and an army of thieves. - *Anon*

War is the slaughterhouse of mankind, and the hell of this present world. - *John Trapp*

War is not an act of God but a crime of man. - *Cordell Hull, former US Secretary of State*

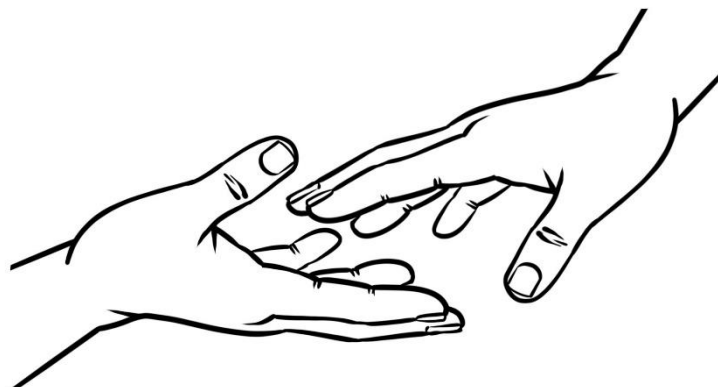
Death takes away the difference between king and beggar, and tumbles both the knight and the pawn into one bag. - *Thomas Adams, son of US President John Adams*

Death is but a passage out of a prison into a palace. - *John Bunyan, writer and non-conformist preacher*

Look upon death as a thing you must meet with; look upon yourselves as a thing you must part with. - *William Dyer*

He may look on death with joy who can look on forgiveness with faith. - *Thomas Watson*

If men are prepared to die, they are ready for anything. - *Joseph Addison Alexander*



HOLIDAY AT HOME 11TH-22ND AUGUST 2025

Once again, the Holiday at Home fortnight was a great success, with this year 265 guests signing up across the range of events and enjoying the chance to meet together and experience holiday activities - without all the hassle of packing and airports! Some have made new friends, many have rediscovered old ones. It has been a lovely, joyful time for all, full of laughter and warmth. The organising team once again owes huge thanks to all who helped to make it happen by organising events, welcoming people, making tea and offering their expertise or entertainment talents. An added bonus is that £858 was donated to support charities, including Southport Lifeboat, Stemcell Scousers, MacMillan Cancer Support, Compassion Acts and Sefton O.P.E.R.A. (Older Persons Enabling Resource and Action).



2025 has felt a bit different for the organising team, because from the start back in January Winnie Pickering and Sheila Kirk, two stalwart organisers who made up half of our number, announced that they would be stepping down once this August fortnight was finished. Irene Watts and Valerie Hogben do not intend to attempt continuing it by themselves, so its future is in question currently.

The Holiday at Home initiative was begun in 2018 as the brainchild of Winnie Pickering, leader of the Befriending Scheme at the Methodist Church in Formby, in consultation with Jean Jones, the manager of Formby Luncheon Club. At that time the Luncheon Club closed its doors for two weeks every August for a 'deep clean'. Winnie and Jean felt that, at a time when everyone else was going away on holiday, it was a very lonely time for those left behind and thus decided that it would be desirable to arrange something for the Luncheon Club members, to fill that gap. Together they planned an event for each day of the fortnight, offering a safe meeting place, some form of entertainment and a substantial meal. They invited the Luncheon Club folks plus members and volunteers from the befriending group, so this first Holiday at Home was a relatively small-scale operation, including fewer than 100 individuals, but the enthusiastic response made Jean and Winnie realise how much such an initiative was needed. Therefore, following its success, the initiative was repeated in 2019 – reaching out this time to other groups as well and involving more people and more events.



2020 would have seen a third occasion, but this time it was interrupted by the pandemic and also by the sudden and sad death of Jean Jones, an early victim of COVID. It was then not until 2022 that Winnie took up the mantle once more and revived Holiday at Home, helped this time by Sheila Kirk and Irene Watts. Valerie had some involvement that year too, but only fully came on board in 2023, by which time the initiative was really beginning to mushroom.

We don't yet know if 2025 actually now marks the end of Holiday at Home. The Luncheon Club no longer closes during the summer these days, but continues throughout the year, so the club is no longer involved at all. The Befriending Scheme, Formby Benevolent Fund and CTiFAH (Churches Together in Formby, Altcar and Hightown) provided moral and financial support, while the latter also organised many of the individual events, which made it all possible. We, the steering group, meanwhile did all of the coordinating and liaison, processed the applications and arranged transport.

The Befriending Scheme committee has discussed whether or not to go ahead with Holiday at Home for 2026. Their overwhelming response was that they would like to see it continue. However, this will require someone new to step in as the overall leader. It needs new blood and new ideas to take it on further – and perhaps in a completely different direction.

Holiday at Home has given to so many and are grateful to the Lord for blessing it so richly over these years. We wait now to see what the future has in store. Thank you to all for your support and encouragement.

(Photos on p16: photo upper left shows Maggie and Mandy's Singalong at Holy Trinity and photo lower right shows the Quiz and Afternoon Tea at the Activity Centre behind the Gild Hall)

**All blessings,
The Holiday at Home team**

.....



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



THE BIBLE SOCIETY

I am writing this article in early October, as we approach St. Luke's day, which is celebrated on October 18. In recent years, through our Sunday sermon series and Home Group Bible Studies, we have read together the two New Testament books that are St. Luke's legacy to us: his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, which together give us a detailed narrative account of Jesus' ministry and teaching and the growth of the early church both in Jerusalem and throughout the Roman Empire. However, those two books represent only a fraction of the Bible: how well do we know the Old Testament? Where do the prophets fit into Old Testament history? Who wrote the Psalms? How many verses can we quote if challenged on what we believe? Jesus knew his Bible (the Old Testament) well and showed on many occasions how His teachings fulfilled Old Testament prophecies.

Reading the Bible can be challenging and we may find that there are times when we need fresh help and encouragement. One of the aims of the Bible Society is to help Christians to explore the Bible and to apply Bible teachings to difficult questions and situations. Their resources include:

- Bibles in a number of different formats, not just different languages
- Podcasts on applying the Bible to our daily lives ("Rooted")
- Daily reflections following a plan to read the Bible in a year (website)
- Website articles
- Rooted devotional journal: a bimonthly publication which includes a Bible reading plan focussing on a particular Bible book or theme, articles by Bible scholars, and updates on the work of the Bible Society

Whilst the website resources (<http://www.biblesociety.org.uk>) are funded by donations, there is a charge for printed materials. However, Christmas is just around the corner...

This is just one strand of the Bible Society's work. Others include the ongoing task of translating and distributing the Bible across the world, and here in the UK, projects to promote better understanding of the Bible, including work in schools and prisons.

Hillary Griffin

CELEBRATING HARVEST AT LOCHARWOODS

On a fine afternoon in early October, a small group from St. Luke's enjoyed sharing a short Harvest service with residents and staff at Locharwoods Residential Care Home. Anne and Hugh accompanied us as we sang two hymns on the themes of creation and harvest, and Janice led a reflection on Matthew 12.

We were intrigued to know what was hidden in Janice's package, which she opened to reveal a small bundle of corn, which was distributed as we thought about the story of Jesus walking through the cornfields with his disciples and being rebuked by the Pharisees for "working" on the Sabbath. As He so often did, Jesus responded to the criticism by quoting a verse from the Old Testament: "I (God) desire mercy, not sacrifice"; what matters is to show God's love to those around us. A challenge for all of us is to get to know our Bibles better too.

Jean finished our service with prayers, and we were able to chat to the residents before leaving. Thank you to the residents and staff for giving us such a warm welcome, and we look forward to joining you again in the months ahead.

Hillary Griffin



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?

Offering residential, nursing and dementia care services, **Formby Manor** is fast becoming the care home of choice in Formby and the surrounding area and the residents and permanent staff members at the facility have created a warm, safe and vibrant community.

Outstanding residential, nursing, respite and dementia care in a luxurious and safe environment.



"To say I am impressed is an understatement. The management and staff show nothing but care and affection to both residents and their families."

"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

Formby Manor Care Centre 67 Liverpool Road, Formby L37 6BU
newcarehomes.com



The legal issues affecting elderly clients, their families and their carers can become complicated. We specialise in the wider and often sensitive issues around health, care and family that might affect plans for later life.

Our friendly approach is both compassionate yet professional and as a company we are committed to providing you with affordable high quality legal advice.

Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney are powerful legal documents. Make sure you get the right advice from a qualified legal professional.



Contact
Elizabeth Foggin TEP
Solicitor
to make a personal appointment
T. 01704 870404



Email: liz@autumnyearslaw.co.uk
22-24 Chapel Lane | Formby | L37 4DU

Specialists in the legal and practical issues that affect older people and their families.

- ✓ Wills & Trusts
- ✓ Lasting Powers of Attorney
- ✓ Court of Protection & Deputyship
- ✓ Elderly Client Services
- ✓ Legal Advice for Carers
- ✓ Lifetime & Inheritance Tax Planning
- ✓ Probate & Estate Administration

We are adaptable and able to provide a home or hospital setting visit if you have physical difficulties in being able to come to see us.

www.autumnyearslaw.co.uk



Caroline Speakman, Estate Planning Consultant Willwriting Service

- Specialist in Wills, Probate & Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Will Reviews
- Property Trust Wills
- Trust Wills
- Free Legacy & Bequest Advice
- Funeral Plans
- Home Probate Service
- Executor Service
- Secure Document Storage
- Free Home Visits



If you would like some more information or some guidance, please feel free to have a chat with me on **07926 587776**, or alternatively please email me at cspeakmanestateplanning@gmail.com
Member of the Society of Willwriters

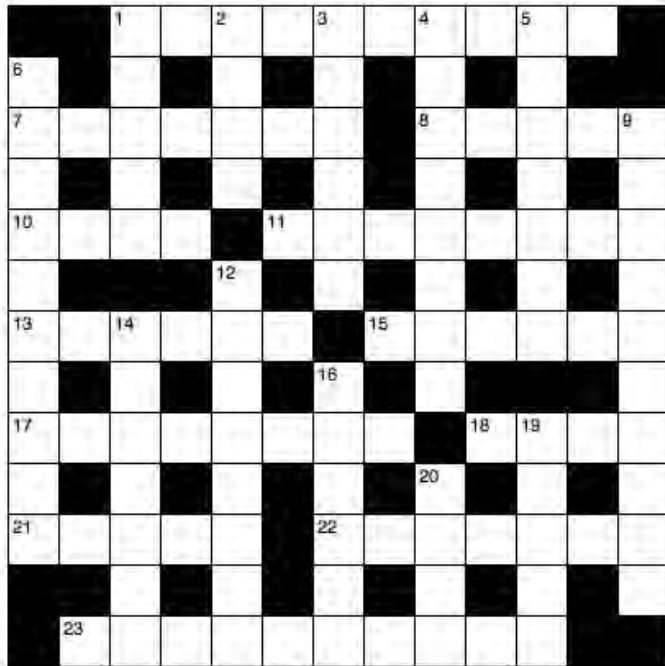
Find me on Facebook & Twitter

Email : cspeakmanestateplanning@gmail.com

Phone No: 07926 587776



CROSSWORD



ACROSS:

- 1 He was replaced as king of Judah by his uncle Mattaniah (2 Kings 24:17) (10)
- 7 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... who for the joy set before him — the cross' (Hebrews 12:2) (7)
- 8 Relieved (5)
- 10 Impetuous (Acts 19:36) (4)
- 11 Surprised and alarmed (Luke 24:37) (8)
- 13 'It is — for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich to enter the kingdom of God' (Mark 10:25) (6)
- 15 Directions for the conduct of a church service (6)
- 17 One of the acts of the sinful nature (Galatians 5:19) (8)
- 18 and 20 Down 'She began to wet his

— with her tears. Then she wiped them with her —' (Luke 7:38) (4,4)

21 'We will all be changed, in a flash, in the twinkling of an —, — the last trumpet' (1 Corinthians 15:51–52) (3,2)

22 'But he replied, "Lord, I am — — go with you to prison and to death"' (Luke 22:33) (5,2)

23 Third person of the Trinity (2 Corinthians 13:14) (4,6)

DOWN:

1 He betrayed Jesus (Matthew 27:3) (5)

2 Paul's assurance to the Philippian jailer: 'Don't — yourself! We are all here!' (Acts 16:28) (4)

3 'Fear God and keep his commandments, for this — the whole — of man' (Ecclesiastes 12:13) (2,4)

4 The sort of giver God loves (2 Corinthians 9:7) (8)

5 Sun rail (anag.) (7)

6 Naboth, the ill-fated vineyard owner, was one (1 Kings 21:1) (10)

9 Paul said of young widows, 'When their sensual desires overcome their — to Christ, they want to marry' (1 Timothy 5:11) (10)

12 This was how Joseph of Arimathea practised his discipleship 'because he feared the Jews' (John 19:38) (8)

14 Mop ruse (anag.) (7)

16 Foment (Philippians 1:17) (4,2)

19 Where Joseph and Mary escaped to with the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:14) (5)

20 See 18 Across

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

.....

Exam: In the examination paper, the professor wanted us to sign a form stating that we had not received any outside assistance. Unsure of whether he should sign the form, a student admitted that he had prayed for the assistance of God. The professor carefully studied the answer page and then replied, "You can sign it with a clear conscience. God did not assist you."

(PP)

SUDOKU

EASY

MEDIUM

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

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

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

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

WORDSEARCH FOR NOVEMBER

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

Wordsearch on St. Andrew (Feast Day 30th November)

St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, though his only connection with the country is that some of his bones were reputedly transported in the 8th century to Fife and preserved at a church in a place now named St. Andrews.

Andrew was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and the very first to bring someone else to Christ - his own brother. Like many fervent Jews at the time Andrew and an unnamed companion had been drawn to the prophet John the Baptist. When one day John pointed out Jesus to Andrew and his friend and described him as the 'Lamb of God', the two young men assumed that the next

stage of their spiritual search was about to unfold. So, as Jesus made off, they followed him.

When Jesus turned and asked them what they were 'seeking', all they could come up with was a lame enquiry about his current place of residence: 'where are you staying?' The reply of Jesus was the most straight-forward invitation anyone can receive: 'Come and see'. So, they did, and the results of their response were life changing. For Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to Jesus, and soon the little apostolic band who would carry the message of Jesus to the whole world was formed. And right at the front of the column, as it were, was Andrew, the first disciple of Jesus.

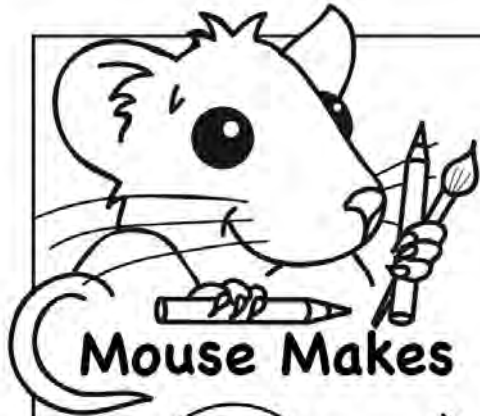
Andrew
 Patron
 Saint
 Scotland

Fife
 First
 Disciple
 John

Baptist
 Lamb
 God
 Followed

Jesus
 Come
 See
 Peter

Apostolic
 Band
 Message
 World

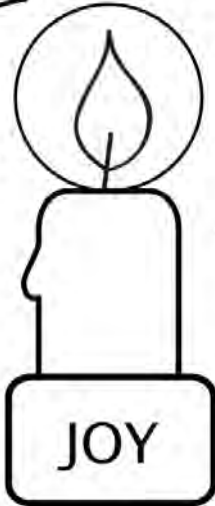


LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

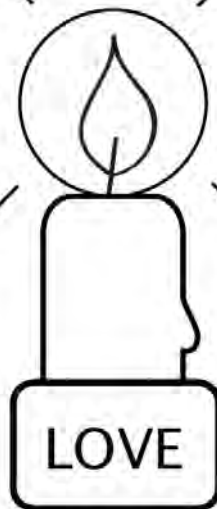
Advent Sunday this year falls on 30th November. ADVENT is a time to celebrate the ARRIVAL of Jesus, God's Son, our Saviour. We look forward with HOPE, we give thanks for God's LOVE and the PEACE and JOY we have in Jesus.



Read: Isaiah 40:5
What shall be revealed?



Read: LUKE 2:10-11
Who is 'God's news of great joy' for?



Read: John 3:16
How did God show He loves us?



Read: Romans 5:1-2
Through who do we have peace with God?

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

ADVENT • ARRIVAL • HOPE • JOY • LOVE • PEACE • GOD • GLORY
MESSAGE • PROMISE • PROPHECY • FORETOLD • JESUS • SAVIOUR
CHRIST • GIFT • GOOD NEWS • RETURN • CANDLE • LIGHT



SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

ACROSS: 1, Jehoiachin. 7, Endured. 8, Eased. 10, Rash. 11, Startled. 13, Easier. 15, Rubric. 17, Impurity. 18, Feet. 21, Eye at. 22, Ready to. 23, Holy Spirit.

DOWN: 1, Judas. 2, Harm. 3, Is duty. 4, Cheerful. 5, Insular. 6, Jezreelite. 9, Dedication. 12, Secretly. 14, Supremo. 16, Stir up. 19, Egypt. 20, Hair.



*The boiler only worked if the
Vergger switched it on.*



Ainsdale Press Est. 1969
Creative Design & Quality Print

**DESIGN, PRINT, FINISHING &
PERSONALISED CLOTHING
ALL UNDER ONE ROOF ...**

LITHO, DIGITAL & LARGE FORMAT PRINT • EMBROIDERED & VINYL WORKWEAR

We offer embroidered and vinyl transfer clothing through our sister company 'Halibop' in addition to our usual business/personal stationery, design and print products.

Halibop
WORKWEAR

Tel. 01704 547327 Email. info@ainsdalepress.com



The Design Studio & Print Works, 195b Portland Street, Southport, Merseyside PR8 6LU



Peace of mind with a Pre-paid Funeral Plan

Taking out a pre-paid funeral plan is not only one of the most thoughtful and caring things you can do. It provides financial peace of mind too.

£100 OFF

all plans placed before Sept 30th 2024

Dean Brothers (Formby) Ltd

01704 872023

To find out more call us on

or email us on info@deanbros.co.uk or visit www.deanbros.co.uk

Terms and conditions apply to funeral plans and to this offer. Over 18s, new customers only, one discount per new plan. Dean Brothers (Formby) Ltd, Deans Court, Gores Lane, Formby, L37 7DF (Reg. No. 00425381) is an appointed representative of Ecclesiastical Planning Services Limited Reg No. 2644860, registered in England at Benefact House which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, firm reference number 958152.



Scripture Union

Helping under-18s explore the Bible, respond to Jesus and grow in faith



MEDICAL CARE AND FREE SURGERY IN THE POOREST NATIONS



St. Luke's supports these 8 charities



10% of our unrestricted income is given to charity (Lev 27:30)