

St. Luke's Formby Parish Magazine

Price: £1.20 per issue

Cheaper by annual subscription

£10.00 for 10 issues a year

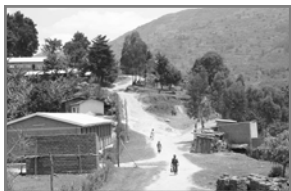
Oct 2024



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

Mothers' Union

Aim: To support MU members in serving their communities

Achieved:

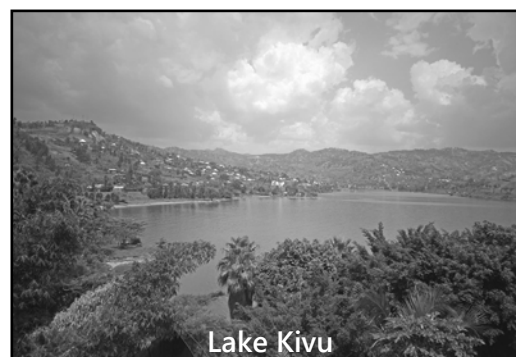
- Members supported with bedding and kitchen utensils
- Training of 25 MU trainers from all over the Diocese
- Successful Revolving Goat Loan project

Challenges:

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



Shyira District Hospital



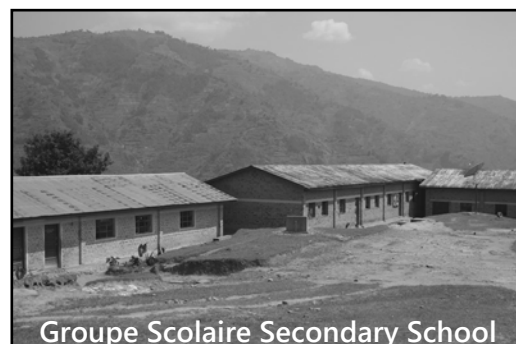
Lake Kivu

Primary Schools

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

Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

Aim: To support needy students in Shyira



Groupe Scolaire Secondary School

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>

From the Vicarage

It wouldn't be October if we weren't remarking on the changing leaves, the conkers, the morning mists, and the nights drawing in. Living in a part of the world with distinct seasons is, for my wife, one of the Lord's great kindnesses. The changing seasons mark the passage of time and bring ever-changing beauty to our surroundings. But for me, the darkness of Autumn often brings with it a sense of sadness, and the loss of long sunny days is less welcome. What about you?



In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4–5)

Talking of light, I've recently set a timer for the light on my bedside table. It now comes on a little while before my alarm, and my family can't quite believe the change it has made. When my alarm goes off, I'm awake and get out of bed without hitting my snooze button once, twice or five times. Light can have a huge positive effect on us. It's the same with Jesus. The Letter to the Ephesians (5:14) gives us this command with an encouragement:

Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Jesus is powerful. He doesn't just illuminate; he also brings to life. Jesus changes us—for the better.

So, over the coming month, as you spot yourself flicking the light switch earlier each evening, my prayer is that each of you would know with certainty something of the hope of Jesus, the One who shines in the darkness, the One who cannot be overcome by the darkness, the One who can give us life and hope. No matter what darkness threatens or surrounds, he will not be overcome and if you trust in him, you will not be overcome either.

With every blessing.

Matt

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

CHURCH REGISTER

Baptism:

14th July – Stephanie Green

Burials of ashes:

12th September – Elizabeth Almond

15th September – Colin Cooke

15th September – Diana Guy

18th September – Edna McClelland

DATES AND NOTES

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

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

ST LUKE'S DAY – Friday 18th October.

LIGHT FAIR – Sat 26th October evening on Church site.

HARVEST SUNDAY – 6th October – please donate generously to the Southport Soup Kitchen!

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

After the 10.30am service on Sunday 6th October we will be celebrating Harvest. You are invited to bring along whatever you would like to eat (sandwiches, snacks etc) so we can all meet and share fellowship together. If you would like to bring additional cakes or biscuits to share with others, we are sure they will be greatly appreciated! Weather permitting, we will eat outside, otherwise, in the Meeting Room. We hope many of you will join us.

The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. (Psalm 67: 6)

There is a plate at the back of church for those wishing to donate towards the cost of flowers to decorate the church for Harvest.

NEW YOUTH CLUB – THE HIVE

Opened in early September and held in the Parish Hall each Friday during term time for ALL young people in school years 6 – 9.

The leaders have planned lots of fun activities and outings with something to suit everyone.

So, do spread the word, invite anyone you know in this age group and encourage them to come along from 7.30 to 9pm each Friday (term time only).

Speak with Paul Furlong, Mike & Pam Thomas for further details.

SHYIRA TRUST AGM – Sun 27th October 12.15pm, Church Meeting Room.

NEXT PCC MEETING – Wed 27th November 7.30pm.

BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS – Sunday 27th October. Clocks back one hour.

NOTICES



Together@StLuke's is a new initiative since Easter for anyone in the local community who would like to join us. It is on the first Saturday of the month. The walk (of differing abilities) starts at 2.00pm from the Meeting Room by the main church building, followed by drinks and snacks and crafts for primary aged children from 3-4pm. Come for some or all of it! It's free but donations are welcome. Dates for the rest of the autumn term are 5th October, 2nd November, 7th December.

Tuesday Lunch - Soup/sandwiches/cake & company, 1st & 15th Oct in the Meeting Room. Donations for lunch welcome.

Open Door Saturdays this Autumn - From now until Christmas we will be opening our doors from 10 'til 12 for tea, coffee, cake and a chat, once a fortnight on: October 12th & 26th, November 9th & 23rd and December 7th.

Our Christmas Crafts stall this year will be on Saturday November 23rd.

Saturday 31st August's Open Doors Bring and Buy raised over £106 for church funds. Our Macmillan Coffee Morning was held on Saturday 28th September. Total money raised will be recorded in our November magazine.

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

Holiday at Home - A big thank you to Irene, Sheila, Valerie and Winnie for organising last August's extremely successful event. Well done!

Operation Christmas Child (shoe box appeal) - Ongoing until the first week in November. Refer Weekly News Sheets.

Southport Soup Kitchen - Non-perishable food items can be left in the church porch on any Sunday. Non-food items and money can also be donated – refer <https://southportsoupkitchen.net> for details.

Light before Christmas: Starlight at Liverpool Cathedral - Tickets are on sale now, don't miss out as this Christmas family favourite returns to Liverpool Cathedral from 29th November to 7th December. After the huge success of last year's event, Luxmuralis are returning to our Cathedral for Christmas 2024.

GOD'S PLANNING FOR ST LUKE'S - by Allan Hobson

As you read the Bible you will find that God had plans that He implemented by using the skills He had given to people. For example, Saul had been a scholar of the Jewish faith and was serious about its defence, even to the extent of approving the stoning of Stephen. He was called by God and renamed Paul so that he could use his knowledge and debating skills in spreading the Gospel.

Does God still use people today? I am convinced that He does. We are each called to tell other people about Jesus and so to continue the work Paul was doing. Beyond that though we have each been given skills by God that He may call on at any time. We can find ourselves doing things, perhaps way out of our comfort zone, not realising that we are actually doing some work that God wants us to do. I think it was like that with the work done by the people of St. Luke's in Rwanda, although we didn't know at the time. I will explain.

In 2000 I went on a 3-week fact finding visit to Rwanda with a group from Mid-Africa Ministry, MAM. That was just 6 years after about a million people had been killed in a genocide. We went to a very remote community called Shyira in the hills of the north-west and stayed there for only about 3 hours. On returning to Formby, I wrote that *'I felt totally devastated by my visit to Shyira. Never had I been to such a deprived community, never had I seen people looking so dejected, never had I witnessed the consequences of evil as I had seen them here. I really hated the journey to Shyira but felt strangely attracted by the place. I was convinced that God was challenging me to do something to help people there. Could I really return to the comfort of Formby, having seen what I had seen, and do nothing? But with such problems, such poverty, what could I do? Alone I could do nothing, but God had plans'*.

Shyira is on a mountain ridge and was founded by missionaries in the 1930s. The missionaries were concerned about the whole person; body, mind and spirit and provided a hospital, schools and a church. They thought of their work as represented by the three legs of a stool, and if one of the legs was taken away the stool would fall over. In 2000 all legs were damaged. The hospital had a nurse as the only one qualified staff member, the secondary school was closed, and the primary school had no books or desks, and the building was damaged having no doors or windows and a roof riddled with bullet holes. There was no money to pay the pastor, so he had to work a small plot of land to feed his family, and the church suffered.

As I have thought about this and my statement that God had plans, I have become convinced that God had been planning for at least four decades for the restoration of Shyira and that St. Luke's was at the heart of His plans. When he came to St. Luke's in the early 1970s Revd Arnold Moon had experience as a volunteer for the Ruanda Mission, the forerunner of MAM, and got the church involved in the work of the charity. June McGibbon took on the job of maintaining contact with the charity and took people to rallies that it organised.



Shyira hospital path lab, 2000

Over the latter part of the 20th century people with appropriate skills had become members of St. Luke's. I can only tell you my story, but I am convinced that I was being prepared for the Rwanda tour of 2000. I had met my wife, Marion, in the most unusual of circumstances, and I feel convinced that the meeting was arranged, not accidental. To do the kind of work that was required a supportive and participating Christian wife is essential.

I came to work in Liverpool in 1968 having made the strange choice of Liverpool Polytechnic as a place to work in preference to Aston University. As Marion and I travelled around Merseyside wondering where a good place for our family would be to live, we came across Formby and the house we chose to live in by accident. It happened to be just around the corner from St. Luke's. While I worked for the Polytechnic, I also gained some experience of developing countries through working as a consultant to the UN and others.

(Cont. on p5)

By the year 2000 Revd Alison Woodhouse had become vicar of St. Luke's and had a sabbatical organised. She felt that because of the sabbatical she couldn't accept an invitation from MAM to go on a fact-finding tour of Rwanda and asked if I would go. I said no! Memories of genocide were still quite vivid. The problem was that every time I said NO a voice inside me said, "But you ARE going". I agreed to go after a two-month delay, did the tour of the country, and came back wondering how I could possibly restore any part of Shyira's three-legged stool.

I did something I had been learning to do as part of my normal work – I told the story. Then a young woman who turned out to be a midwife, with developing country experience, said she wanted to go to Rwanda. Very quickly we had a group of ten people wanting to go and see how they could help in Shyira. Four of the ten had medical experience, there was a secondary school teacher and people with an interest in mission and ministry, and me, supported by Marion, with developing country experience that now felt inadequate as I set out to lead and guide the group. God's planning had put the right people into St. Luke's congregation for us to go to Rwanda and we now had the task of fulfilling His plan.

Before we went, we experienced opposition as people working for non-governmental organisations in Rwanda told us how dangerous going to Shyira would be. The Devil does not want God's planning to succeed. Our Rwandan contacts were able to send reassuring messages to us and fears were overcome as we travelled to Rwanda.

As we walked around Shyira hospital for the first time we were shown a boy the hospital staff said was dying. One of our medically trained people touched his skin and said, "But he's only dehydrated!" The boy was treated and went home three days later. We had taken a lot of gifts for the hospital, school and church. We gave the primary school head teacher some books, paper, pens, and much more. A little while later there was the sound of children's laughter and we saw that each had one of the gifts we had presented to the school - a pencil, a ball, something that put joy into their hearts. We were being shown how a little knowledge or a gift could begin to restore the community.



Shyira primary school 2001

Back at St. Luke's there were now ten people to tell the story, and we set about fundraising to restore the maternity hospital, repair the primary school, pay secondary school fees and financially support the pastor. God had put us in St. Luke's and brought us together to visit Shyira. While we were there, He had given us examples of what could be achieved and would help us in carrying out His work to restore Shyira and its people.

God would continue to ease the way for us in the work we were doing. For example, when we felt that the amount of money involved would be better handled by a charity, we found in St. Luke's

membership a lawyer who could provide a model constitution and someone with experience of managing a charity. God knew our needs before we did and arranged that they would be met.

That does, of course, raise some questions. For example, we are told that we have the freedom to choose what we do, but if God is assembling His team of people to do His work where is the choice? We can, perhaps, find the answer in the Bible. Jonah chose not to go where God tried to send him, but eventually God got his way. In Gethsemane before his crucifixion Jesus prayed, "Not my will, but yours be done". Perhaps we just need to see God's call to us as a real honour and know that he will be with us.

Those of us that went to Rwanda were blessed with an amazing experience and the whole church gained from our collective support of people that were suffering the effects of evil. To be called by God for some specific task is truly a privilege for the whole church, and as Rev Arnold Moon once said to me, "If God wants you to do this work, He will never let you down".

ST LUKE'S BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Do you know that St Luke's Church has a Book of Remembrance? The Book is to the left as you enter the main door, in a display case on the window ledge overlooking the Garden of Remembrance. It is normally kept covered by a blue board to protect the pages from the sunlight, but the board can be lifted off.

The Garden of Remembrance rules and regulations contain two references to the Book of Remembrance, as follows:

The names of those whose ashes are buried in the Garden may, on request, be entered into the Book of Remembrance in Church. The inscription will consist of the name of the person and their dates of birth and death. The Book is organised in months of the year. The current month is usually displayed. Requests for entry are by the completion of an application form obtainable from the Vicar.

By arrangement with a churchwarden, suitable flowers may be placed by the Book of Remembrance in Church on a date to be agreed.

Entries into the Book may include any church member whose ashes are not in the Garden of Remembrance. They may, for example, have been buried elsewhere.

Each entry includes 3 items: the person's name and the dates of their birth and death. The entry will typically be on the page corresponding to the month of birth, month of death, or month of marriage. Month of marriage allows a married couple to eventually be reunited on the same page.

Philip Lowe and Valerie Hogben look after entries in the Book. They also have application forms and once completed should be returned to them. There is no charge.

Allan Hobson

THOUGHT FOR OCTOBER

At this time of the year our thoughts naturally turn to harvest, deciduous leaf fall and early morning mists. The autumn colouring throughout our woodlands is a joy to behold. Our annual Harvest service at St Luke's this year is on Sunday 6th October and by the end of the month an army of helpers will be sweeping up the dead leaves in our churchyard. Nature is winding down for a well-deserved rest over the coming winter months, preparing itself for renewal next Spring when yet another yearly cycle of life begins all over again.

The cycles of the moon interest me from time to time – full moons in particular - although I'm definitely not any kind of keen astronomer. The internet tells me that they have names and in September and October the Harvest Moon is the one that graces our skies. The name dates back to ancient times when a bright full moon gave prolonged light and allowed greater time for gathering in ripened summer crops for storage and the pending Winter. In the Northern Hemisphere and in Anglo-Saxon times it also became known as the Hunter's Moon when hunting, slaughtering and preserving meats was also a necessity for survival during the cold Winter that lay ahead. The native American Indians after the fall gave such names to full moons as Drying Rice Moon, Falling Leaves Moon and Freezing Moon – wonderful names!

God's world and universe exist in cycles – cyclical seasons of the year, cycles of the moon and many other cycles which I'm sure you can come up with. The seasons on our planet earth play a key role in ensuring the survival of many living species of plants and animals. Autumn, therefore, after the exuberance and vibrancy of Summer, has an important role to fulfil in the yearly cycle. So, if you are prone to feeling a bit down at this time of the year as the days get shorter and colder, take heart, Autumn has purpose! And remember, keep talking and listening to Jesus – the one eternal constant for us to call upon 365 days a year irrespective of what cycle we may be in!

KD

A BIT OF LOCAL HISTORY - BANG BRAIDS FARM AND THE AINDOWS - REPRINTED FROM AN ARTICLE IN THE FORMBY TIMES IN JULY 2006

Visitors have always been drawn to holiday on Formby's coastline. But one reader remembers visitors cycling from all over the North West to stay at her family's farm.

Marjorie Wilson, from Southport, was transported back in time among those happy campers after our recent look at Bang Braids Farm. Mrs. Wilson said "It took me back to my childhood before the war – when I was taken there by train.

"My mother's Uncle Jack ran the farm, and we were visiting my grandparents who lived in a wooden bungalow on the shore-side of the hill which can still be seen on the site of Range High School.



"Campers had tents erected around the farm and the orchard – which grew the largest apples I have ever seen! The campers all arrived on bicycles as cars were rarely seen in the early 1930s. It was said that Jack Aindow allowed the holidaymakers to come because they could not afford traditional holidays. I remember the young people dressed in shorts and tops, the like of which I had never seen.

"Your correspondent mentioned Annie Aindow, one of the farming Aindow, to which both my mother and father belonged, as they were first cousins. Their respective mothers were sisters named Elizabeth Annie and Ada. My mother's mother married a James Hose and my father's mother married a James Goulbourne who, I understand, was a blacksmith in Formby.

"I seem to recall that the farming Aindow and the Lifeboat Aindow were of different religions and it has always been claimed they were direct descendants of Vikings whose name was Aindei.

"My mother was born in 1895 and my father in 1896. My mother went to the little School House as a child which was situated by the railway crossing in Ravenmeols Lane – now the site of a block of flats.

"My visits were curtailed when I was evacuated during the war, but my memories will always be with me.

"One more memory is of Formby Station whose stationmaster always had a roaring coal fire burning in the waiting room, which also had toilets. Along the platforms were flower beds kept immaculate by the station staff".

Margaret Cooke with illustration by Joan MacDonald

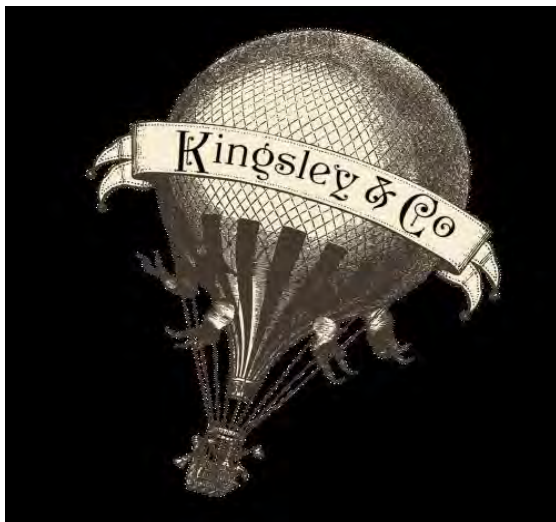
CHURCHES TOGETHER IN FORMBY, ALT CAR AND HIGHTOWN

Do you enjoy being playful, working with children and telling the Good News of God's love to the next generation? If so, why not consider joining Christians from other churches in Formby as part of the Open Book team with CTiFAH. This is an exciting storytelling project where Bible stories are shared with children in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable. The team visit 4 primary schools in Formby monthly to present a 10–15-minute scripted Bible story to a school assembly. For more information email: geraldine@malvernfosters.me.uk

St Luke's is an active participant in CTiFAH which provides a strong link between the churches and runs many community activities such as The Village Nativity, The Passion Play, Christmas Windows and Open the Book school assemblies. It also supports many more including The Formby Befriending Scheme, The Hub, The Formby Food Pantry and Warm Space and Holiday at Home. The Chair is an annual appointment and from a different church every year. This year, St Stephen's Hightown take the lead with Mrs Beryl Howard as current Chair. Please continue to pray for the work we do. New volunteers are always welcome. Information about special events at individual churches is shared and everyone is welcome.

June McGibbon

OCTOBER BOOK APPEAL



Do you ever watch BBC's early evening regional news magazine, Northwest Tonight? If you are a regular viewer, you may remember an item back in the Spring about the redevelopment of the Strand, the shopping centre in Bootle. In the "Great Kingsley Book Move", a chain of volunteers were removing books from Kingsley & Co, the children's book shop set up by YKids, as the old unit was being vacated (a short clip can still be viewed on the Kingsley & Co website, www.kingsleyandco.org).

The bookshop has remained closed over the summer months but YKids staff hope that the new unit, located in the former Natwest premises on Stanley Road, will be fully refurbished and open before the half-term holiday.

Books are always popular Christmas presents, and Kingsley & Co sell good quality second hand books, fact or fiction, **for children or teenagers** at fixed prices. However, they do need a supply of donations.

If you are able to donate any books for children or teenagers that your children may have grown out of but which are still in good condition, there will be a clearly marked container for these items in the Meeting Room from October 13th to October 24th. I will aim to deliver donations to YKids during the half-term holiday.

Hillary Griffin

(YKids is one of 11 charities listed on the back cover of our 2024 magazine to which St Luke's PCC continue to donate 10% of monies received through voluntary giving.)



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Best wishes,

Miranda Lyons

Mayfield Avenue
Formby
07957 808296

mirandalyons@uwclub.net

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* UW Price Pledge: Eligible for new customers (from 22/04/24) who take 3 or more qualifying services and regularly use their Cashback Card. If a customer doesn't save with UW (incl. Cashback) in their first year vs. their previous provider (or cheapest major provider where applicable), they can apply to claim the UW Price Pledge between 12 - 15 months after their sign-up date. When you claim we'll assume an average Cashback Card saving of £160 a year (based on customer usage data from 03.04.23 to 31.03.24, for users who earned Cashback at least at least once a week, excluding promotional activities) or your actual Cashback saving if higher. T&Cs apply, see details at uw.link/price-pledge

SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2024

Thursday 3rd October

11.00am Holy Communion
(Readings: Job 19:21-27a & Luke 10:1-12)

Sunday 6th October – Trinity 19 (HARVEST)

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Parade
(Readings: Psalm 126 & Matthew 6:25-33)

Sunday 13th October – Trinity 20

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: Acts 9:1-19a & Mark 10:17-31)

Sunday 20th October – Trinity 21

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service
with Holy Communion*
(Readings: Acts 9:19b-31 & Mark 10:35-45)

Sunday 27th October – Trinity 22

8.30am Traditional Service
10.30am Contemporary Service*
(Readings: Acts 9:32-43 & Mark 10:46-52)

(*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 October

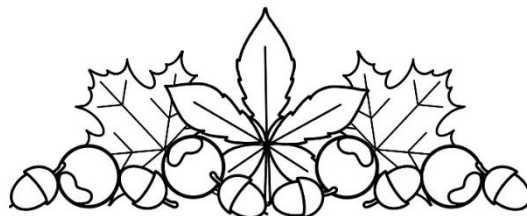
Lord,

As we move into autumn and the month of October, the normal seasonal changes are all around us, the beautiful colours, the falling leaves, the cooler days. And that is reassuring. But, so much else in our world is changing so rapidly, often in ways we don't understand. And that can be worrying.

Thank you that You never change. You are always the same, faithful, present and loving. And You tell us in Your Word, not to be anxious about anything, but to bring all things to You in prayer and to trust You. When we do this, You promise us Your Peace – a peace of heart that steadies us and helps us move forward.

Thank you that whatever comes, we are secure in You, when we put our trust in Jesus. In His name, we pray. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching (PP)



WHO'S WHO

Vicar	Rev Dr Matt Davis
Readers	Mrs Anne Dixon Mrs Jean Watts Mr Chris Mulford Prof Allan Hobson
Readers Emeritus	
Churchwardens	Mr Steve Ginn Mrs Fiona Grieveson Mr John McGibbon
Deputy Churchwarden	
Treasurer Deputy Treasurer	Mr Hugh Dixon 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 Meeting Room Secretary	Mr Steve Ginn 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) Mrs Margaret Cooke Mrs Margaret Cooke Mr David Moore
Magazine Distribution Magazine Adverts Magazine Collation	
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 Mrs Jean Watts
Vulnerable Adults Officer	
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.

New Youth Group – Started in Sept. Speak to Matt/Liz or refer to Weekly News Sheet for more information.

Refer also to p2, p3 and Weekly News Sheet for further information on church activities and events.

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 – 2nd Sat am of the month.

Uniformed Organisations in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

Rainbows	Contact District Commissioner	Sheila Kirk	875393
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Brownie Guides

4 th Formby	Monday (In Meeting Room)	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
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8 th Formby	Wednesday	6.00pm	Jenette Rowlands
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Guides

4 th Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
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Beavers	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	5.45pm	John Gelder (Beavers8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	876456
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Cub Scouts	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	6.45pm	Bob Ford (Cubs8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	873026
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Group Scout Leader	Gordon Hilbert	874167
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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), Steve Ginn (Warden), Fiona Grieveson (Warden), Dr David Hogben (Secretary).

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

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WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN OCTOBER

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

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 7th Oct, 10.30-12noon (1st 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.
 - 2nd Thursday 10th Oct – Singing for Fun.
 - 3rd Thursday 17th Oct – Singing is Good for Your Brain!
 - 4th Thursday 24th Oct – Singalong with Ian & Geraldine.

Formby Methodist

- FM are celebrating their 150th anniversary this year and are marking it with several events throughout the year at Elbow Lane. On Friday 11th Oct at 7.30pm there will be a concert by 'Aughton Male Voice Choir'. Entry is by donation on the night.
- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (1st Oct) 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 by emailing the Formby Befriending Scheme – info@formbybefriendingscheme.org.uk

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

- Limited delivery service on offer; enquire at Library for details.
- Open for browsing and computer use.
- Reader sessions are continuing each month, 'a group where people can share a reading experience together and explore what memories and feelings the text evokes'. The group is welcoming new members. Contact Library for details of the next session.
- Ukulele lessons have been very popular. The Nov course is fully booked but there are two courses in the New Year (Jan & Feb) which are open to expressions of interest.
- Monthly talk on Wed 30th Oct at 2.00pm on 'The Northwest and the Space Industry' by Bob Morris. Contact Library to book a place.
- All the usual events are happening in October including –
 - Police Help Desk – every 3rd Mon of the month, Mon 21st Oct.
 - Free Coffee Mornings every Thursday 10.30-12noon.
 - Thursday IT helpdesk 11am-1pm.
 - Gardening Club - interested persons can go on the mailing list to be notified about sessions.
 - Creative writing group. Check with Library for details.

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

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'Operation Obviate' – a motor vehicle display

Saturday 12th October

@

The Pheasant Inn (20 Moss Lane, Hightown, L38 3RA), 12.00noon – 4.00pm

The Royal British Legion in conjunction with the Military Vehicle Trust will be staging the event. Involved locally will be The Formby Royal British Legion in association with The Crosby Royal British Legion and The Southport Veterans.

FORMBY HERITAGE CENTRE



Have you visited it yet? It's above Woodwards but access is from the door in the alleyway – 'Historic Alley' - that runs from the left of the former office of Care Assured. There is a sign above the entrance door. There's even a stairlift and it's open every Saturday from 11am to 2 pm.

It's very nicely furnished – not luxurious but comfortable – and is full of photos and records of Formby's past and various items from it, including the collection of Ceramic Cottages depicting many sites that have now disappeared, and the Formby Tapestry. There are also some copies of Muriel Sibley's drawings of older Formby buildings – her originals are now cared for at the Atkinson in Southport. There's also a large screen on which images and films can be shown.

Please do your best to support this project into which quite a few people – including Councillor Carol Richards

from our parish and the Formby Civic Society committee - have invested a lot of time and energy.

And did you know that in 2026 Formby will celebrate 250 years since the opening of what is believed to be the world's first Lifeboat Station? It's almost certainly a bit older even than that as the first record of its existence in Liverpool records is of repairs being done. The Royal Mail has been approached about the possibility of a commemorative stamp, and Lottery funding is being sought to enable celebrations to happen in a truly memorable way. Watch this space!



Margaret Cooke and John Philips (Chair of Formby Civic Society)

SMILE LINES – Shaking hands at the end of the service, a newly appointed vicar was approached by one of the older ladies who was known and respected in both the church and community. "Sir," she said with a smile, "your sermon was like the peace of God!"

The young preacher's grin widened, and his chest puffed a bit ... until she continued on, "it surpassed ALL understanding!"

SHYIRA TRUST

ST. MARK'S CHURCH

The local authority seems adamant that the church will not be allowed to re-open until it has installed the following: -

10 toilets (6 for adults and 4 for children - they base the number on the average attendance at Sunday services which is 400)

4 large water tanks to take the water off the roof in heavy rain and avoid more water than necessary flowing down the hill

500 chairs

tarmac for car-parking (vehicles other than bikes are rarely seen on Shyira Hill now)

And all this is going to cost approx. the equivalent of £12,000.

We need to pray for a miracle here - otherwise St. Mark's Church is going to be closed for a very long time.

In the meantime, there is a WhatsApp group created by Rev Jacques for worshippers.

GROUPE SCOLAIRE NEWS

The school now has a **food-processing lab and a workshop for electronics**. They are quite excited about this. The technical education offered here will be valuable. Shyira has had no technical education since CEFOPS Technical School closed a good 10 years ago.

The school has received the results of the **First National Exams** for students in the 3rd year (S3) – these are the equivalent of GCSEs. These results are almost always ready by the end of August so that the school and the students all know whether they can progress to the 3-year specialised course. The results for the 2nd National Exam (equivalent of A Levels) seem to arrive later every year – last year not much before Christmas – which means that students wanting to continue with higher education have to wait until the following academic year. Admittedly the exams do take place later than ours – practicals were still going on at the end of term. The exam results this year were good – for the sponsored students there were 6 passes, one absence due to illness and one fail. We hope that the last two students will repeat the year and be successful in 2025.

- - -

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 2022 - MAY 2024

As readers will be fully aware, at the behest of Bishop Augustin prior to the pandemic the Trust expanded its remit into Kivu Diocese. Consequently, it is now supporting 5 ongoing priority projects. Bishop Augustin recently sent the Trustees a detailed report on the progress of the projects. The first three have been reproduced in previous editions of our magazine. The 4th and 5th – 'fighting malnutrition and stunting' and 'supporting home and family life' - are published on p18 in this edition.

▪ Fighting malnutrition and stunting

This requires boots on the ground! The Bishop decided to go to people's homes and local churches to find out how much they put into practice the teaching they are getting to fight malnutrition and stunting. By doing this, other leaders were challenged to keep closer to the people and follow up on the implementation of the plans developed during the teaching sessions.

Awareness creation and teaching included, among others: -

- Having a balanced diet
- Cleanliness
- Family planning
- Fighting soil erosion
- Planting fruit trees
- Having a peaceful home

This is an on-going commitment, and we continue to monitor the progress. The photo below shows Bishop Augustin Ahimana climbing hills to visit a local church and check on how fighting malnutrition and stunting is being carried out.



This activity drew special attention, particularly because it directly affects the lives of mothers and children.

Throughout the Diocese: -

- * A total of 610,685 fruit trees were planted on both church and members' land, including avocado, papaya, mango and others.
- * A total of 4,275 kitchen gardens were prepared for providing vegetables for domestic use.
- * A total of 6,539 progressive terraces were made to prevent soil erosion.

▪ Supporting home and family life

Homes troubled by conflict were identified in different parishes and the Mothers' Union is actively helping them. Strategies were developed to keep helping those families, and to minister to married couples and to prepare the young people for a happy married life. Retreats of over 700 married couples were carried out at churches in Muhanda, Nyamyumba, Vunga, Nyange, Bigogwe, Mutura and Mahoko parishes. These were very refreshing moments for couples.



Figure 1 (left):

Meeting of the Diocesan Executive Committee of Mothers' Union to develop strategies for helping families troubled by conflict and ministering to married couples and young people.



Figure 2 (right): Retreat of married couples at Muhanda parish. Rev. Munyaneza, the mission coordinator, is addressing them.



Figures 3 (a) & (b): Retreat of married couples at Nyamyumba parish. Bishop Augustin and Claudine have joined the family of the parish priest to lead the retreat.

KD – Shyira Trust Secretary



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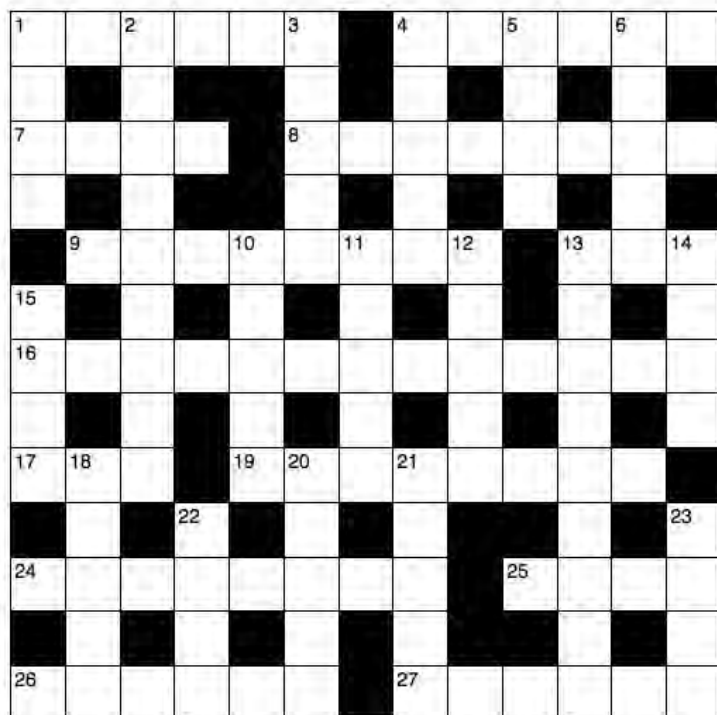
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CROSSWORD



ACROSS:

- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)
- 4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)
- 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)
- 8 See 19 Across
- 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)
- 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)
- 16 'He has sent me to bind up the —' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)
- 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)

19 and 8 '— a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)

24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)

25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)

26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)

27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a —!' (John 2:16) (6)

DOWN:

1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)

2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)

3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)

4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born —' (John 3:3) (5)

5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)

6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)

10 Ruses (anag.) (5)

11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)

12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)

13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)

14 'This is my —, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)

15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)

18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)

20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)

21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)

22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

SUDOKU

EASY

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

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MEDIUM

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

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(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

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WORDSEARCH

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

All Hallows' Eve – or Holy Evening

Modern Halloween celebrations have their roots in pre-Christian times. In those long-ago days, on the last night of October, the Druid priests celebrated the Festival of Samhain, or 'Summer's End'. They lit great bonfires and performed magic rites to ward off the dark supernatural powers of oncoming winter. Today, Christians turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. And the deeper, true meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten. As Christians, we all draw closer to Christ when we remember and give thanks for our loved ones and for others who have gone before us through the gates of death.

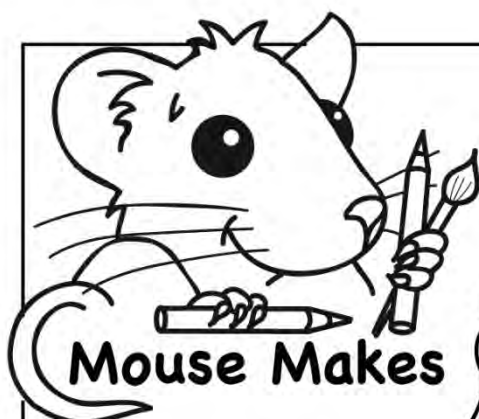
All
Hallows
Halloween
Druid
Priests

Festival
Samhain
Bonfires
Magic
Dark

Supernatural
Powers
Winter
Christians
Prayer

Charms
Deeper
True
Eve
Closer

Christ
Thanks
Loved
Death
Gone



WALK WITH THE LORD

"Teach me your way,
O Lord, that I would
walk in your _____."
Psalm 86:11

"For we **walk** by

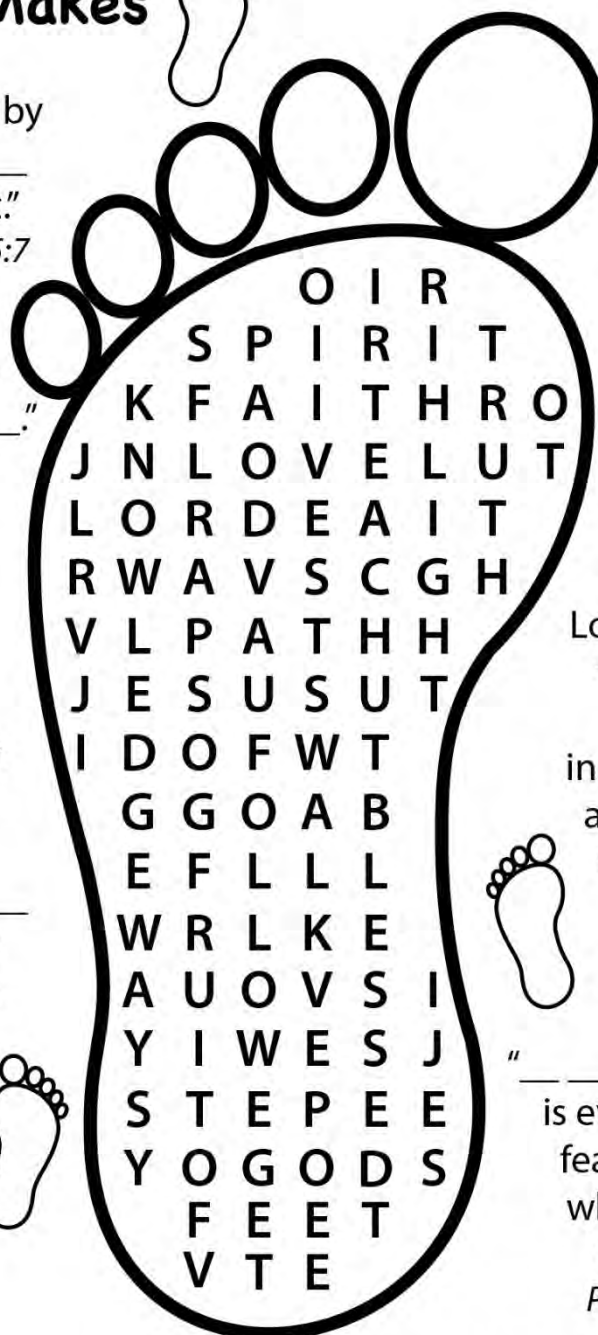
not by sight."
2 Corinthians 5:7

"**Walk** by the

Galatians 5:16

Jesus said:
"I am the light
of the world.
If you

me you won't
have to **walk**
in darkness
because
you have
the light
that leads
to life."
John 8:12



"**Walk** in

as Christ loved
us and gave
himself up for us."
Ephesians 5:2

"**Walk** in
a manner
worthy of the
Lord, fully pleasing
to him, bearing

in every good work
and increasing in
the knowledge
of God"
John 8:12

"_____
is everyone who
fears the Lord,
who **walks** in
his ways."
Psalm 128:1

GOD • JESUS • LORD • WALK

WAYS • STEP • FEET • PATH • GO • TEACH • KNOWLEDGE • LIGHT

Find the words from the questions too!

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

EASY

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

MEDIUM

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: 1, Deacon. 4, Appear. 7, Wits. 8, Heavenly. 9, Argument. 13, Mob. 16, Broken-hearted. 17, Ran. 19, Suddenly. 24, Obstacle. 25, John. 26, Enable. 27, Market.

DOWN: 1, Dawn. 2, Afternoon. 3, Nehum. 4, Again. 5, Prey. 6, All to. 10, Users. 11, Ephod. 12, Trace. 13, Metalwork. 14, Body. 15, Eber. 18, Alban. 20, Uncle. 21, Dream. 22, Stab. 23, Gnat.



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