# St. Luke's Formby Parish Magazine

**Nov** 2024

Price: £1.20 per issue

Cheaper by annual subscription £10.00 for 10 issues a year



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 1116s

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

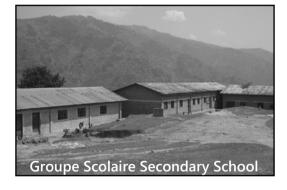


## **Primary Schools**

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

## **Groupe Scolaire Secondary School**

**Aim:** To support needy students in Shyira



# 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

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#### Vicar - Revd Dr Matt Davis

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends



A few weeks ago, I got an alert on my phone one Thursday afternoon. It told me that the geomagnetic activity was about 600 nanotesla (nT). That probably won't mean much to many of you, so let me briefly explain. When there are sudden changes in the earth's magnetic field, it is usually due to solar activity. Charged particles from a solar flare on the sun are reaching the earth and as these charged particles whizz through the atmosphere, they change the magnetic field, and scientific instruments record that change. Basically, enough charged particles, and my phone buzzes.

So, why do I care?! Well, when lots of charged particles hit the atmosphere, they interact with gases in our atmosphere, which start to glow. The sky glows green or red or even purple. Aurora! Or to give it its full scientific name: "aurora borealis"—the northern lights. That Thursday afternoon, I kept checking my phone as the sun set and it started to get dark. The activity increased and decreased a bit over the next few hours, but it was still high. I started to get excited! Once it was dark enough, I headed down to the Lifeboat Road carpark and joined quite a crowd. Sure enough, there were red patches and green patches in the sky. As my eyes got used to the darkness, I could occasionally see lines of red coming down from higher up. It was amazing, and beautiful. And sadly, my photographs don't do it justice by a long shot!

Since childhood, I've been interested in astronomy. I used to gaze up at the Milky Way on cold winter nights. I remember the first time I saw craters on the Moon through a telescope and the first times I saw the rings of Saturn and clouds on Jupiter through more powerful telescopes. These things take my breath away, and still do.

Psalm 19 begins with the words:

With every blessing,

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

The heavens' beauty and majesty point to their creator. A child once exclaimed, "Wow! If they are this beautiful underneath, how much more beautiful must they be on top?!" Indeed, how much more beautiful must God be who dreamt up not only the physical laws of charged particles, but also the breathtaking beauty that they paint in our skies. As a scientist, as well as a Christian, I can say he is definitely someone worth getting to know.

Matt			

Joint Editors: Margaret Cooke (e-mail: <a href="macooke29@gmail.com">macooke29@gmail.com</a>) and Ken Davies (e-mail: <a href="macooke29@gmail.com">kendavies1989@gmail.com</a>) Illustrator: Joan MacDonald St. Luke's Web Site: <a href="http://www.stlukesformby.org.uk">http://www.stlukesformby.org.uk</a>
St. Luke's Facebook Page: facebook.com/StLukesChurchFormby

#### CHURCH REGISTER

**Burial of ashes:** 

12th October - Elizabeth Greaves

Funerals:

21<sup>st</sup> October – Tony Connolly 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Moira O'Mahoney

#### DATES AND NOTES

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

**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.

#### **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.

ALL SAINTS' DAY - Fri 1st Nov.

ALL SOULS' DAY - Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH - Sun 3rd Nov.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - Sun 10th Nov.

ARMISTICE DAY - Mon 11th Nov.

ST ANDREW'S DAY - Sat 30th Nov.

**PCC MEETING –** Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov in the Meeting Room 7.30pm.

**ASSOCIATION OF FORMBY ARTISTS (AFA) AUTUMN ART EXHIBITION WITH CRAFTS** – Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Nov in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Rosemary Lane, 9.30-4.30pm. Admission £1. Light refreshments available.

**FORMBY CHORAL SOCIETY** – Verdi Concert, Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Nov in Formby High School at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 and available via trybooking.com or 0151 929 3617.

#### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> November and 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Tuesday Lunch** - Soup/sandwiches/cake & company, 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Nov in the Meeting Room. Donations for lunch welcome.

**Open Door Saturdays Update** - November already and from now until Christmas we will be opening our doors just 3 more times, November 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>. We open from 10 'til 12 for tea, coffee, cake and a chat.

Our Macmillan coffee morning, in October, was a great success. Our amazing cake bakers filled far more than the one table I had put ready, and the Meeting Room filled with customers. We were able to transfer £411 to Macmillan and they should be able to collect Gift Aid from £150 of donations.

Don't forget that our Christmas Crafts stall this year will be on Saturday November 23rd.

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!

**Operation Christmas Child (shoe box appeal)** – The last Sunday for shoe boxes to be left in church is November 3<sup>rd</sup> (Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> being Remembrance Sunday). They will be uplifted w/b Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and taken to one of the collection centres. If anyone still has a box after 3<sup>rd</sup> November it can be delivered to David Moore @ 21 Vicarage Road, Formby, or collected from your home through arrangement with David by ringing him on 875101.

**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 Anglican Cathedral** - Tickets are on sale now, don't miss out as this Christmas family favourite returns to Liverpool Cathedral from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 7<sup>th</sup> December. After the huge success of last year's event, Luxmuralis are returning to our Cathedral for Christmas 2024.

#### INTRODUCING THE NEW HEAD AT ST LUKE'S SCHOOL





Hello, everyone, I'm Mrs Karen Allen, the new headteacher at St Luke's CE Primary School. I am delighted to have been called to such a warm and wonderful school where the love of God permeates everything we do. I take over the role following the retirement of Mrs Sharon Cowey – what a super head she was. I know she enjoyed her retirement celebrations and appreciated all of the lovely gifts and kind words she received from the whole school community.

I have been teaching for over twenty years in several schools across Sefton and this is my first headship. I am excited to take up the post and look forward to building on all of the things that make St Luke's such a good school.

I have a huge passion for reading and believe the love of reading is one of the most important gifts we can give our children. I love sport and competed at National and County standard in several different disciplines. I enjoy music and singing in a local choir.

I live in Southport with my husband and three teenage children. Our life is happy and at times noisy and chaotic.

The welcome I have received since starting at St Luke's has been lovely and I feel blessed to be here. I hope to meet you all soon.

Mrs Karen Allen	
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#### **SMILE LINES -**

- ~ (For the group of ladies called 'Mums Who Care' and pray for the children in school). When their meeting was cancelled one week the notice read: 'There will be no mums who care this week'.
- ~ Childcare provided with reservations.

#### ST LUKE'S MAGNIFICENT MAYA DAY

Would you like to learn about the marvellous Mayas? Well, St Luke's Year 5 children had a journey back to Maya times with a wonderful Maya expert instructor, Big Nose - the Mayans actually named people by how they looked!

Firstly, Big Nose taught the children how to count to ten, a bit tricky and complicated with really unusual sounding words – "WAK"!! Then, to see which class had the best memory, Big Nose gave them a tricky but enjoyable quiz (5W won!!).

Next, the children had the chance to act out different Maya funny stories and dreadful, bloodthirsty myths, wearing Mayan costumes and using imaginative props such as frog's heads, coloured cloths and wooden cocoa beans. Big Nose was extremely funny and made sure nobody was left out.

Meanwhile, whilst one class was exploring the drama, the other was learning about fascinating artefacts including a shiny conch shell used as a horn to send messages to the gods, and fabric dolls, which were toys for Maya children.

In the afternoon, Big Nose chose two brave teachers to recreate the Maya creation story. It was very funny because the teachers had to act and dance, with some of the children dressed as a variety of animals to show how the animals were created by the gods.

Summing it up, Big Nose put a super smile on the children's faces while building up their knowledge of the Magnificent Mayas!

#### By Imogen, Erin and Emily (Year 5)





#### **SMILE LINES -**

- ~ For religious studies, my report in 1973 read: 'Not very interested'. Revd Roger Hagon, Surrey
- ~ I have kept none of my school reports. My mother's maternity records judged me best: 'Feeble at birth with considerable moulding'. *T Duffy, Middlesex*

#### ST LUKE'S SCHOOL

# A fabulous autumnal poem and artwork created by one of the talented pupils at school

#### **Autumn**

Autumn brings
Brown, purple and red leaves,
Conkers falling from the trees.
Chilly mornings and windy days,
Winter coats and wet plays.
Pyjamas on early with fluffy socks,
Then fireworks which totally rocks!

#### Miles Year 3





"...and don't forget we're coming into Nativity Play season – make sure we have extra tea-towels in stock!"

# HARVEST AT ST LUKE'S CHURCH & SCHOOL - all for the Southport Soup Kitchen!

## St Luke's Church Harvest Lunch - 6th October 2024

THE S FORMS

Father God, thank you for all the good things you provide for us so we can live well, be healthy and enjoy your wonderful world.

Help us all to share these good things with those who find life hard so they can also live well, be healthy and enjoy your wonderful world.

Most of all, thank you, God, for giving all of us your love and helping us to follow your ways to enjoy your wonderful world.

Amen







AND nearly £300 in money donations from St Luke's School. What a terrific effort all round from church and school! Thank you on behalf of the SSK! Maggie

#### 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 together, and Janice led a reflection on Psalm 23 with the help of her wonderful flannel board. We all learned something new: a sheep can only drink from "still" water and that is exactly where the shepherd leads his sheep, reminding us that Jesus, our Shepherd, knows exactly what we need 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

#### THOUGHT FOR NOVEMBER



In my Thought for November in last year's magazine I wrote, 'November to me will always be about red poppies and remembrance'. This is still very much the case today. Please give generously in support of the Royal British Legion (RBL) annual Poppy Appeal.

I could leave it there, but the never-ending conflicts and wars we witness daily on our television screens from around the world - particularly in the Middle East and in Ukraine as I write - remind us sadly that the killing and

suffering goes on. Why people choose to live by hate, conflict and death is hard for me to understand. Yes, I know, it's all about the gift of choice that God has allowed us to make – for good or bad! However, those of us who walk with Jesus can keep praying and praying in the hope that one day all nations will live in love and lasting peace. Persistent prayer by many can help to achieve that aim!

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#### WITH OUR CHRISTIAN PILGRIMMAGE IN MIND...

Our character is but the stamp on our souls of the free choices of good and evil we have made through life. - *Geikie* 

The fellow who argues that all religions should unite probably doesn't speak to his brother-in-law. - *Herbert Prochnow* 

The line is often busy when your conscience tries to speak. - Anon

The two great movers of the human mind are the desire of good, and the fear of evil. - Samuel Johnson

Forgiveness is a funny thing – it warms the heart and cools the sting. - William A Ward

Many of us who profess to be Christians are so busy with the mechanics of our religion that we have no time left for the spiritual part of it. - *W B Martin* 

Man sees your actions, but God your motives. - Thomas a Kempis

When love is felt, the message is heard. - Jim Vaus

Let your religion be less of a theory and more of a love affair. - GK Chesterton

If you want enemies, excel others; if friends, let others excel you. - Colton

The longer we dwell on our misfortunes, the greater is their power to harm us. - Anon

It isn't easy for an idea to squeeze into a head filled with prejudices. - Anon

Unhappiness: not knowing what we want and killing ourselves to get it. - Anon

Experience is what you get when you are looking for something else. – Anon

Without God the world would be a maze without a clue. - Anon



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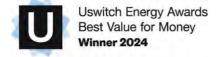
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#### SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2024

#### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – 4 before Advent

8.30am Traditional Service

10.30am All-Age Holy Communion

4.00pm Memorial Service

(Readings: Acts 10:1-23a, Mark 12:28-34 &

Isaiah 65:17-25)

#### Thursday 7th November

11.00am Holy Communion (Readings: Phil 3:3-8a & Luke 15:1-10)

#### Sunday 10th November – 3 before Advent

8.30am REMEMBRANCE 10.30am Parade Service

(Readings: Psalm 65 & Mark 1:14-20)

#### Sunday 17th November – 2 before Advent

8.30am Traditional Service10.30am Contemporary Service

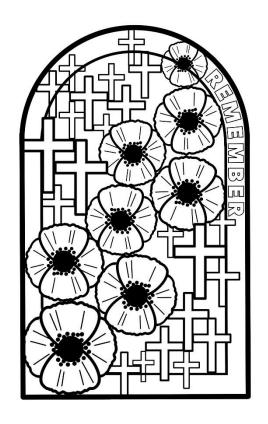
with Holy Communion\*

(Readings: Acts 10: 23b-48 & Mark 13:1-8)

#### Sunday 24th November – 1 before Advent

8.30am Traditional Service 10.30am Contemporary Service\* (Readings: Acts 11:1-18 & John 18:33-37)

(\*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 November

Dear Lord,

November can be a dreary month. Even the first syllable is negative and reminds us of all the things we are missing; the long light days, summer breaks, blossom and fresh green leaves.

As we walk through the dark days, help us to remember that You brought light into this dark world. You sent Jesus, who is that light in person, Your positive who overcame all negatives by His death on the cross.

November leads us closer to the time of celebration of His coming. Lord, thank you for Jesus.

Thank you for November!

In Jesus' name. Amen.

#### By Daphne Kitching (PP)

#### WHO'S WHO

Deputy Churchwarden

Vicar Rev Dr Matt Davis

Readers Mrs Anne Dixon
Mrs Jean Watts

Readers Emeritus Mr Chris Mulford

Prof Allan Hobson

Churchwardens Mr Steve Ginn

Mrs Fiona Grieveson Mr John McGibbon

Treasurer Mr Hugh Dixon

Deputy Treasurer Mrs Gwyneth Croft

PCC Secretary Dr David Hogben

Electoral Roll Officer Mrs Jean Cox

Deanery Synod Representatives Mr Andrew Cox

Mr John Gelder Mrs Hillary Griffin Dr David Hogben

Gift Aid Officer Mrs Valerie Hogben

Legacy Officer Mr John McGibbon

Parish Hall Secretary Mr Steve Ginn

Meeting Room Secretary Mrs Fiona Grieveson

Newsletter Editor Mrs Irene Powell

Magazine Editors Mrs Margaret Cooke

Mr Ken Davies

(Contributions by 10th of the month -

preferably by email - see page 1)

Magazine DistributionMrs Margaret CookeMagazine AdvertsMrs Margaret CookeMagazine CollationMr David Moore

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

Vulnerable Adults Officer

Mrs Jean watts Mrs Jean Watts

Health & Safety Officer Dr David Hogben

Woodland Workshop Co-ordinator Dr Peter Griffin

Cathedral Representative Mrs Elizabeth Lowe

Church & Mid-African Mission Mrs June McGibbon

Church Administrator Mrs Valerie Hogben

#### WHAT'S ON

**Monthly Prayer Meetings –** See Weekly News Sheet for details. Monday or Tuesday evenings likely days, 7.30/7.45pm in MEETING ROOM.

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

New Youth Group - THE HIVE - see p2.

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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat am of the month.

Uniformed Organisations in the Church Hall unless otherwise stated –

Rainbows	Contact District Commissioner		Sheila Kirk	875393
Brownie Gui	des			
4 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Monday (In Meeting Room)	6.00pm	Julie Maher	07811 907003
8 <sup>th</sup> Formby <b>Guides</b>	Wednesday	6.00pm	Jenette Rowlands	
4 <sup>th</sup> Formby	Wednesday	7.30pm	Julie Clark	833757
Beavers	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	5.45pm ( <u>Beavers</u>	John Gelder 8thFormbyStLukes@outlook.co	876456 om)
Cub Scouts	Thursday (In Meeting Room)	6.45pm ( <u>Cubs8th</u>	Bob Ford FormbyStLukes@outlook.com)	873026
<b>Group Scout</b>	Leader	Gordon H	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), 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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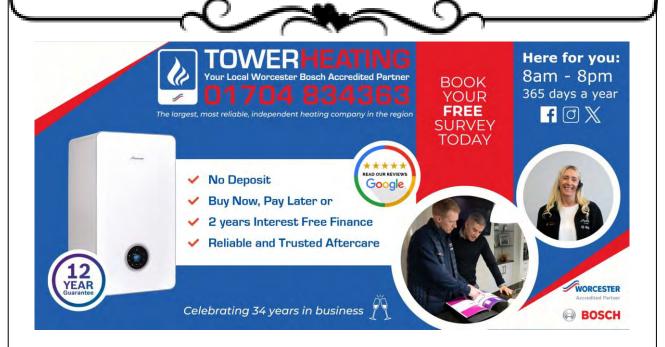
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#### WHAT'S ON FOR THE 'ELDERLY' IN NOVEMBER

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 4<sup>th</sup> Nov, 10.30-12noon (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month except Bank Holidays) in the Bier House on Church site. Free admission.
- Singing Thursdays! (except for 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov Singing for Fun.
  - o 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov Singing is Good for Your Brain!
  - o 4th Thursday 28th Nov Singalong with Ian & Geraldine.

#### **Formby Methodist**

- FM are celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and are marking it with several events throughout the year at Elbow Lane.
- Coffee Club 1st Tues of each month (5<sup>th</sup> Nov) 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.
- Making bird feeders Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 1.30-3.00pm. No need to book in advance.
- Reader Group meets Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Nov @ 11.30am. No advanced preparation is necessary

   'a group where people can share a reading experience together and explore what memories and feelings the text evokes'. Refreshments served. New members welcome.
- Monthly talk English Villages in the Middle Ages by Stuart Elliott, Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov @ 2.00pm. Contact Library in advance if attending.
- 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.
- All the usual events are happening in Nov including
  - Police Help Desk every 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon of the month, Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.
  - 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 Actio	<b>n Alliance –</b> contact Jan Campb	oell: jan.campbell@seftoncvs.org.uk
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#### SMILE LINES -

**Somebody has to do it -** The most solemn and terrible duty of a bishop is the entertainment of the clergy. - *Sydney Smith* 

**Close it down -** The popularity of the Victorian preacher George Whitefield was such that the Privy Council debated whether steps should be taken to prevent his vast evangelical rallies. Lord Chesterfield suggested, "Make him a bishop, then you will silence him at once". - *Edmund Fuller* 

#### HOLIDAY AT HOME 5TH-17TH AUGUST 2024

The team of H@H organisers, Winnie, Sheila, Irene and myself, had a 'postmortem' meeting to review the 2-week event and discuss what had worked this year and what hadn't.

A record total of almost 300 guests signed up this year across the 21 events, to eat fish & chips, work out in exercise classes, create mindful art, join in with singalongs, watch drama or local history presentations and concerts, or to be indulged with pamper sessions.

Billy Thomas singing at the SunShine Tearooms, Ince Blundell





Maggie & Mandy Singalong at Holy Trinity

#### Back massage, pamper session



Our booking system was more streamlined this year and worked better (although not yet perfect, so lessons still need to be learned). We had asked each guest to specify his/her absolute first choice of event and were then able to assign almost every single person to at least their first choice, which was a great improvement on last year, since several of the events are really popular and heavily oversubscribed.

Taxi transport was provided for some, but most came under their own steam including, to our delight, large groups from Halcyon House and Locharwoods, aided by their lovely carers. The atmosphere was joyous at all of the events. A large number of older people get little opportunity to be taken out in everyday life. They loved being part of the Holiday at Home, and we were thrilled to see some new friendships being forged, while a few folk found out about clubs and classes they could join in Formby, ongoing, which is brilliant. We were also amazed and touched to see approx. £1200 raised for various charities during the fortnight, including Compassion Acts, MacMillan, Queenscourt and Stemcell Scousers – charities chosen by the various event providers.

And what can we say about the part the churches and the volunteers played! We are so grateful for all of the help and encouragement we received, for the people who gave their time to sing and play, serve food and drinks, meet people and help them to seats, chat with them and introduce them to others. The team feel that this was a very successful fortnight once again and even, having rested for a month, are already just beginning to talk about next year...

#### Valerie Hogben

#### BIBLE GALLERY ON LAKE CONSTANCE (BIBELGALERIE)

Several years ago, on our trip across Europe we stayed on Lake Constance in a town called Meersburg. When we came home, we mentioned this to Joyce Eddlestone because we knew that she had visited the same area. Joyce told us about the Bibelgalerie and so on our next holiday we decided to give it a go. Unfortunately, it was all in German and our lack of language skills meant we missed much of the meaning.

This year having heard that the Galerie had been updated, we decided to go again. There is now commentary and text in English, so we found it much more interesting! It's also possible

to visit their website where you can find audio guides and text in English https://www.bibelgalerie.de

The Bibelgalerie is housed in a former Dominican Convent called 'Heiligkreuz' (Holy Cross). There are frescoes of St Catherine of Siena and St Christopher carrying the infant Jesus across a swollen river. These were uncovered and restored when the building was renovated in the 1980's but all the communal spaces are thought to have been decorated with beautiful frescoes. You can see the original well that supplied water to the convent and a

mock-up of the kind of tent Moses and the Israelites would have used on their journey through the desert. The tent is made out of authentic materials such as goat's hair used in the Old Testament times of Abraham and Sarah, and it is about a third of normal size. The articles around it, such as the grinding stones, illustrate daily life at that time.

The link between the deanery of Sefton and the deanery of Überlingen-Stockach began nearly 30 years ago when it was arranged for a group of German clergy to come and stay with the clergy in Sefton for a long weekend. However, the clergy of Sefton were unable to provide enough accommodation, so Joyce and her husband Mike agreed to accommodate a German vicar.

Joyce says, "Having spent our holidays in Germany and Austria and as we speak some German, we offered to have a German guest. Our guest, a larger-than-life bouncy German vicar arrived, Peter. His parish was on the banks of Lake Constance, in a place called Immenstaad. During that weekend we got to know the rest of the group as well and we have lasting friendships with many of them. One of the group was Thea Groß, who has become a very good friend and has visited Formby many times as part of the group and has come with her family as well.

Thea has devoted nearly all of her working life to the creation and running of the Bible Gallery in Meersburg which is a beautiful town on the banks of Lake Constance and attracts huge numbers of tourists each year. The churches thought that it would be a good idea to provide some outreach of the gospel with so many people around. They chose the name "Bibelgalerie" because they felt that the word "museum" wouldn't be as attractive."

Lake Constance (Bodensee in German) is 63km long on the borders of Germany, Switzerland and Austria. It's fed by the Rhine River and ferries cross the lake all day. If you are feeling energetic, the Bodensee-radweg cycle path encircles the entire lake. We never stay long enough to do that!

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

#### THE BIBLE SOCIETY

I am writing this article in early October, as we approach St Luke's Day, which is celebrated on October 18. Luke's legacy is two substantial books in the New Testament, his Gospel and then the Acts of the Apostles which tells us how Christianity spread outwards from Jerusalem. The current sermon series has followed the early chapters of Acts, and we have seen how the apostles used their knowledge of the Old Testament history and prophecies in their preaching and evangelism. We have also learned that it was persecution that drove the early disciples away from Jerusalem to settle in other Roman provinces and to spread the Good News of the Gospel further afield.

Some 1800 years later, in rural mid Wales, a young girl called Mary Jones, the daughter of a poor widow, was so determined to have a Bible of her own that she worked and saved through her teenage years. When she finally had enough money, she walked twenty-six miles to Bala to purchase a Welsh language Bible of her own. The bookseller, Thomas Charles, was so moved by her determination that he gave her two additional Bibles to take back to her village. Inspired by Mary, Welsh pastors started to campaign for more affordable Bibles and this campaign was subsequently taken up by the MP, William Wilberforce, which led to the foundation of the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804. Now known simply as the Bible Society, the charity continues the task of making the Bible available to all people in their own language.

Today, Christians in many parts of the world are faced with the challenges of conflict and persecution. The Bible Society continues to take the Good News to such places, and it is remarkable to discover how the Christian church continues not only to survive but grow in the face of adversity, just as it did in Luke's lifetime. Two recent examples are:

- In war torn areas of Ukraine, Ukrainian Bible Society staff are not only delivering Bibles, but studying the Scriptures and praying with groups of soldiers. They also deliver food and medical supplies, risking their own lives when they go into areas where there is fighting. Over £1 million has been donated from the UK for the purchase of Bibles and the Bible based handbook "Beyond Disaster" to help those suffering from trauma.
- The church in China has been subject to severe persecution over the years and at one time the Bible was banned. However, the Bible Society has been able to work with the Chinese authorities so that Bibles are now printed in China. The Christian church has experienced rapid growth but there is still a need for study resources for fellowship groups and trained leaders, which the Bible Society is working to provide.

Let us continue to pray for the work of the Bible Society as it seeks to make the Scriptures accessible to all people, regardless of their situation.





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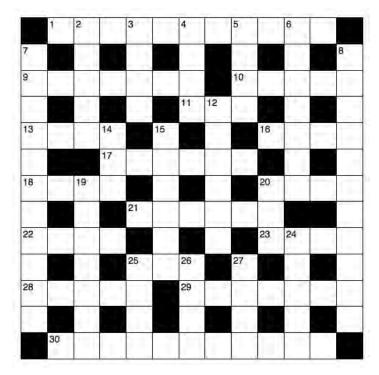
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#### **CROSSWORD**



#### ACROSS:

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No —, impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always —, nor will he harbour his anger for ever (Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
- 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
- 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
- 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

#### DOWN:

- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
- 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
- 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
- 5 Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
- 7 'Our is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
- 8 'This is a day you are to —' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
- 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
- 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19 'Remember the day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
- 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
- 25 'If anyone would come after me, he must himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
- 26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
- 27 See 18 Across

(SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

#### SUDOKU

**EASY MEDIUM** 

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						5		
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#### (SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 24)

#### WORDSEARCH

SASWNORMANDYE KEGBODSNCSREO RAEHNYAB HRAGSAOEP Ε

#### Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day this year has a special significance – it was 80 years ago this June that the D-Day Landings of the Second World War took place.

Those D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy led to the liberation of France and Europe. And this year the Normandy region has been celebrating - with events including synchronised fireworks at the major D-Day sites, a giant picnic on Omaha Beach, liberation balls, bagpipe parades, and international parachuting of hundreds of soldiers above Sainte-Mère-Église.

It has been estimated that between 15 and 20 million people died in Europe

alone during the Second World War. Worldwide, an estimated 75 million people died.

**Fireworks** World **Parades** Europe War Picnic Parachute Remembrance Millions Normandy Day Beach Liberation Landings Omaha **Soldiers** Second France **Bagpipe** Died



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#### SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

MEDIUM

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

# CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

**ACROSS:** 1, Charioteers. 9, Immoral. 10, Cairo. 11, SAE. 13, Inns. 16, Firm. 17, Accuse. 18, East. 20, Ogam. 21, Judith. 22, Seba. 23, Msgr. 25, Den. 28, Inane. 29, Entreat. 30, Chrysoprase.

**DOWN:** 2, Human. 3, Rare. 4, Oils. 5, Ecce. 6, Raising. 7, Citizenship. 8, Commemorate. 12, Assail. 14, Sat. 15, Scouse. 19, Sabbath. 20, Ohm. 24, Seeds. 25, Deny. 26, Nero. 27, Star.



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