

# Grapevine



East Street, Lindley, Huddersfield, HD3 3ND www.lindleymethodist.org

## **Lindley Methodist Church**

Minister: <u>suet234@hotmail.com</u>

Rev Sue Taylor 01484 522733

Steward Team: Ann Emery

Sue O'Neill David Schofield Hilary Wilson Liz Froom

Church Booking Secretary: office@lindleymethodist.org

Helen Hall 07775 237364

Treasurer Team: treasurer@lindleymethodist.org

Stuart Rudd

Church Council Secretary: ccsecretary@lindleymethodist.org

Liz Vere

Building & Resources: office@lindleymethodist.org

Adam Swallow

Pastoral Lay Worker: pastoralvisitor@lindleymethodist.org

Sheena Rudd 07483 315435

Media Team: media@lindleymethodist.org

Sam McNeil Notices

Helen Hall Notice Boards
Katie Fairbank Website Manager
Shona Malcolm Grapevine Editor

**Church Bank Details:** 

Lindley Methodist Church R.C.1129166

Sort: 08-92-99 A/C: 65458875

Charity Number: 1129166

#### **DATES FOR DIARY:** November/December 2023

Coffee Stop			Thursdays	10:00	
Saturday Marketplace			1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	10:00	
November					
5	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Baptism Led by Rev Sue Taylor		
12	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Remembrance Sunday Led by Steve Bagshaw		
19	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Holy Communion Led by Rev Sue Ta	ylor	
19	3:00	F2F & Zoom	Memorial Service Led by Rev Sue Ta	ylor	
26	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by the Minor Pr	ophets	
December					
3	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Advent Sunday and Holy Communion Led by Rev Sue Taylor		
9	4.00	F2F	Family pyjama serv	ice	
10	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Sunday Service Led by David Schof	ïeld	
17	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Nativity Led by Steve Bagsh	naw	
24	10:45	F2F & Zoom	Carol service		
24	3.00	F2F	Family Christingle		
25	11:00	F2F & Zoom	Family Christmas D Led by Rev Sue Ta	•	
31	10:30	F2F & Zoom	United service at Fa	artown	

Our services can be accessed from anywhere in the world and we would be delighted if you are able to join us – please contact <a href="mailto:media@lindleymethodist.org">media@lindleymethodist.org</a> for Zoom invitation details and we look forward to you being with us

# LETTER FROM YOUR MINISTER

Dear friends,

Even though the weather can be quite changeable we still have the benefit of the different seasons in this country. As I write this letter it's a cold Autumn morning with the promise of winter not very far behind. The darker nights are on their way but as I was driving through the town centre the other evening I thought to myself it won't be



long before we start to see the Christmas lights brightening our streets. Christmas gifts are already in our shops!

The winter can be a time when people feel isolated and alone. For this reason as a church we are offering a warm space again this year. We couldn't initially think of a name for this new group but knew we were wanting to offer this space to show that we are a church that seeks to love its neighbours. The suggestion we have gone with is 'Neighbours, Everybody needs Good Neighbours'. We will no doubt be able to sing the tune too!

The new group will run on a Wednesday afternoon from 12.30 – 4.30pm, starting on Wednesday 15th November, in the church lounge. This is a day when the library is closed so we hope more people may join us. Refreshments and light lunches, board games, jigsaw and books will all be available. The group is open to both people from church and the community. Everyone is welcome regardless of their age, or circumstances, if they just want somewhere to come on a cold winter afternoon to be in the company of others. It might be that you want to bring one of your hobbies with you and enjoy doing it with other people. There will also be occasional speakers.

We will also need volunteers like last year to be the 'Welcomers', so watch out for the rota's going up and if you can spare an hour or two that would be great.

As we move towards Advent and Christmas we are reminded that for us Jesus is the light of the world that shines in the darkness and the darkness can't overcome it.

By offering this space, alongside the other things we do as a church, we hope and pray that we can shine that light into other people's lives.

With all my good wishes,

Sue

#### SHEILA AND LESLIE WOOD - SARAH

Sheila and Leslie Wood wish to thank Lindley Methodist Church family for their prayers and support over the last four years for their granddaughter-in-law, Sarah.

Here is part of the article that the Sunday Mirror reported on Sarah's journey.

#### GIVEN WEEKS TO LIVE, MUM CURED FOUR YEARS ON.

Docs sent me home to die but love and hope helped to clear me of all cancer.

Throwing her head back with laughter as she runs around the garden with her two children, Sarah Clarke has an incredible reason to cherish every moment with them.

Because four years ago she was certain she would never live to see them grow up.

Sarah, 43, had been told that the lung cancer diagnosed two years earlier had spread and that nothing could be done to save her, despite ops to remove two tumours from her brain. And on Mother's Day in March 2019, she was sent home to spend the last ix weeks of her life with her heartbroken husband Adam – and facing the agonising task of telling the children Joe,13, and Georgina,11, she would not be with them on her birthday in April. "I was in complete disbelief", she says.

Desperate to ensure her family had memories of her, she had filmed 40 poignant videos for her children to watch as they got older. She even planned her funeral. But then, as her days were finally running out, the unbelievable happened. She lived to see her 39<sup>th</sup> birthday – and beyond.

Brain tumours usually grow back within six weeks of removal, but scans showed no signs – leaving her neuro-surgeon at Sheffield's Northern General Hospital, consultant Saurabh Sinha, hardly able to believe his eyes.

Since then, all her scans have been clear and in January this year she was told that, against all odds, she was in remission. Cancer Research UK says the chance of someone with metastatic lung cancer surviving five years or more is just 4%. Now Sarah feels almost back to her old self and has her own explanation for her recovery. "I believe it's love and hope that got me through," she says. "I felt so loved. It was amazing. I had been in complete disbelief. "I was sent home to die. But after doing all the videos and the letters, I thought, 'I've had such a good life', and I want my kids to live their lives, to follow their dreams. Sarah has always tried to keep fit and make the most of life. She loved hiking with Adam, 42, who works for HMRC, in the Peak District and Lakes – and even completed the Sheffield Half Marathon two months before the diagnosis of metastatic lung cancer in July 2017, when she was 37.

Sarah briefly began to feel better after several rounds of chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and radiotherapy at Western Park Hospital in Sheffield. She even carried on her job as a senior public health specialist until she was diagnosed with her first brain tumour in November 2018. A CT scan also revealed a second brain tumour two months later. Both were removed. Sarah says: "Then the surgeon told me I had less than six months.

"I did so much reflecting on my life with letters to family and friends. The thought of missing out on stuff with the kids was heartbreaking, But I was happy." Sarah was prepared for her health to quickly take a turn for the worse. She spent a brief time in a hospice and then, on that March Day in 2019, was sent home to die.

All the time Sarah has been constantly fighting for survival, during her battle she has kept up her Pilates classes, went vegan and started juicing.

Sarah has not stopped. "In May 2021, she hiked across Blencathra in the Lake District and has done Snowdon. She never thought she'd do anything like that again but feels like she's just getting stronger and stronger each day.

Sarah's consultant has never known metastatic lung cancer to be cured. The only explanation is that it was down to a combination of the drug treatment for the lung cancer Sarah had before the brain surgery and her positive mental attitude.

Sarah has retrained as a life coach and volunteers as a "cancer buddy" at Sheffield's Cavendish Cancer Care, giving support to other sufferers.

She smiles: "I still take every day as it comes, but I am also grateful for every single moment I get to live. Now I am just savouring being able to do all the things with my family I never thought I would live to see."

#### AN OLD NEWCOMER'S VIEW FROM A PEW

"I was a stranger, and ye took me in"

A soon as I set foot over the threshold of Cowcliffe Methodist Church I felt as if I had finally come home. For 32 years I enjoyed the worship, the warmth of the fellowship and the activities, becoming, over time, cleaner, librarian, magazine editor, steward et cetera. In short, a Jill of all trades, master of none.

Sadly, last September after 186 years the Church had to close its doors leaving its remaining congregation to find another place to worship.

To this 90 year old the thought of going from a church with a small congregation to one with a large one; of starting in a new place to worship, knowing no one, of meeting new people and not knowing what to say, was both frightening and overwhelming. However, it had to be done and although it would be wrong to say I felt at home I did receive and still do receive, a warm welcome. Now after nearly a year I have settled in, have been really well taken care of and looked after. Please forgive me if I forget your name, my 90 year old memory is not quite as good as my 19 year one was.

Finally, thank you for welcoming me, I now feel part of the Church Family at Lindley.

Jill



#### **FAIRTRADE UPDATE!**



I thought it was time I did an update and a quick guide to the various Fairtrade organisations and businesses I am now interacting with to both supply church's catering requirements and my Fairtrade stall, following the very sad closure of Traidcraft plc back in January.

I wanted to start however by thanking you all very much for your continued support of the stall and your encouragement, during a rather confusing and challenging time in the world of Fairtrade!

Traidcraft plc along with its sister charity (formerly Traidcraft Exchange – now known as Transform Trade) was such a respected Fairtrade pioneer with over 40 years' experience in all things Fairtrade, covering so many bases and building up lots of partnerships and relationships, that no one organisation can truly fill its shoes.

However, there are a lot of smaller Fairtrade companies who continue to do excellent work albeit on a much smaller scale so the important work of helping to make the world a fairer place through trading justly goes on.

Here is the list of the companies I am now ordering from to supply the stall. Both Ethical Superstore and True Origin were former partners of Traidcraft plc. They have been generous to former Traidcraft fair traders and do offer discounts when they can, and free postage over a certain amount.

#### **Ethical superstore**

#### www.ethicalsuperstore.com

Ethical Superstore has a large website as it stocks a wide range of eco-friendly alternatives to everyday items such as fashion, food, cosmetics and cleaners that do as little harm to the environment as possible, as well as supporting farmers and small businesses primarily in developing countries by also offering fairly traded goods, guaranteeing fair prices at every stage of the supply chain. They also support British farmers and produce.

I order Divine chocolate, Cafedirect coffees and Zaytoun products etc from The Ethical Superstore.

**True Origin** (formerly Joint Trading Scotland – JTS)

#### www.trueoriginfoods.co.uk

True Origin is a much smaller enterprise with only five staff but it definitely punches above its weight in the Fairtrade word. It has two distinct parts – True Origin foods and True Origin

Partnerships and they work directly with a network of farmers and producers across the Global South.

I order items such as the Meru pasta sauces, Eswatini jams and curry sauces, Kilombero rice on request, dried lentils and chick peas etc from True Origin.

They also give discounts on bulk orders etc.

New products in the pipeline include a range of herbal teas, marmalade and sugar.

#### We are Fair trade (WAFT)

#### www.wearefairtrade.com

We are Fairtrade are the UK's newest Fairtrade retailer formed in the spring of this year, following the closure of Traidcraft plc.

They have a small team of five which includes Mark Buchanan who is now one of the two directors. Mark joined Traidcraft plc last year as acting CEO and three of the team also worked at Traidcraft plc, so they have a lot of experience of running a fair trade business.

WAFT along with other businesses and commercial customers were allotted a share of Traidcraft plc's warehouse stock as part of the administration process, which they have made available for sale via their website and which I have ordered as needed. Many of the perishable goods are starting to disappear from stock now due to sell by dates or demand!! I can still order cards, toilet rolls(!), craft and stationary items at the moment. WAFT are also attracting new producers and companies.

On behalf of church, I have signed up as a WAFT advocate which means I do get a discount on orders as well as discounts on bulk orders and a quantity of Christmas catalogues.

#### **Transform Trade**

#### www.transform-trade.org

I have put Transform Trade out of alphabetical case because first and foremost they are a longstanding development charity (deeply connected to Traidcraft plc) who to quote from their website "work for trade and climate justice".

In South Asia and East Africa, they partner with farmers, workers, and artisans to help them benefit from more sustainable and equitable trade. While in the UK, they advocate and campaign for changes to business practices and government policies.

However, following the closure of Traidcraft plc, as part of the administration process, they were given custody of the Traidcraft brand (ie the name, website and logo used for the business) and they aim to continue the legacy of Traidcraft albeit it in a slightly different way. For more details - visit <a href="https://www.traidcraft.org">www.traidcraft.org</a>

Their vision for the Traidcraft brand is not to set up another online shop, but to support producers directly. They want to use the brand to help producers find routes to market and new opportunities to sell their products, and also to attract social investment for these producers and give them a platform to share their story to reach new audiences and new networks.

They have produced a range of Christmas cards this year with all the proceeds going to the work of Transform Trade and these are available from me, along with Christmas wrapping paper, Traidcraft cards from previous years and Christmas decorations and little gifts provided by Tina.

You can now pay by QR code as well as with cash or bank transfer.

The Fairtrade stall will be open on:

Saturday 4 November – Marketplace coffee morning Sunday 5 November – after the service Saturday 2 December - Marketplace coffee morning Sunday 10 December - after the service

I am also happy to order on your behalf anything you would like from the suppliers listed above.

Thank you for reading this and please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to know more, as I am aware this has been a very brief update. And finally, if anyone would like to help out with the stall, I should love to hear from you too!

#### Ann Emery



#### **LET'S END POVERTY**

Act now for a future where poverty can't keep anyone down.

There doesn't have to be poverty in the UK. But over many years, our society has been built in a way that traps people in hardship and keeps them there. Now, we urgently need to build something better. We need our political leaders to step up, take responsibility and take action on poverty and everything that locks people in it.

Let's End Poverty is a diverse, growing movement of people who are united behind a vision for a UK where poverty can't keep anyone down.

As individuals and communities working together, our movement knows what its like to live in poverty. We understand what causes it. We can help to solve it. But we can't do it on our own. We need our political leaders to take urgent, coordinated action to break poverty's grip.

We stand for a future where everyone has enough to eat. Where everyone has a good quality of life and is supported through hard times, without needing food banks, clothes banks and warm hubs. Where all of us are able to wake up in the morning with hope, opportunities and options for living a fulfilling life.

We don't and won't accept a society where poverty persists. Let's End Poverty.

Show your support, and invite others in. There are lots of ways you can build the Let's End Poverty movement. Sign up at <a href="https://letsendpoverty.co.uk">https://letsendpoverty.co.uk</a>

You're invited to our first Get Involved gathering on 7 November, 7.00-8:30pm. These calls are aimed at people getting involved with Let's End Poverty for the first time. We'll be meeting online to get to know one another, explore the motivation behind Let's End Poverty and find out how you can get more involved. We're meeting each month for our action gathering, where everyone who's involved with Let's End Poverty will gather together to hear updates, get equipped for action and hear about opportunities to get stuck in. Our first Action Gathering will be on Thursday 23 November, 7.00-8:30pm. Sign up for these events at <a href="https://letsendpoverty.co.uk/events">https://letsendpoverty.co.uk/events</a>

Over the next few months, we'll be recruiting for volunteers to join the Let's End Poverty Enabling Group. The Enabling Group will provide a strategic role in the oversight of movement activities, and will help the movement make choices that support our aims and keep moving in a positive direction. There are 11 seats on the Enabling Group for people from different backgrounds and communities, and the group will be balanced between people with lived and learned experiences of poverty. If you're interested in finding out more, take a look on the website or join us at one of our Find Out More calls on Monday 30 October or Thursday 2 November. To find out more about the Enabling Group and book onto a Find Out More call, visit <a href="https://letsendpoverty.co.uk/governance">https://letsendpoverty.co.uk/governance</a>

Together, we're part of something that is growing and building momentum. Let's keep the ball rolling! Let's End Poverty, now, together, for good.

#### **SCARECROW FESTIVAL OCTOBER 2023**

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Scarecrow Festival last weekend. Making scarecrows, stewarding, making drinks, setting up and tidying up etc. It was a very successful weekend with hundreds of people visiting the church throughout the weekend.

Our scarecrows were themed on recycling and all of them were excellent with tins, paper, bottles, coffee sacks and other recyclables being used.

Some stood out for me – thank Bernard for the composting bin Dalek, and Marsh Ladies Choir - a lady singing who was so realistic you needed to look twice, especially when other choir members sat alongside her to sing. We also had many youngsters asking where our mice were hiding.

We had visitors from as far afield as Sheffield, Honley, Scisset and many others.

The village was buzzing as well with most shops and businesses joining in.

It was a pleasure to welcome so many people and for us to show we care about our community.

Sue O'Neill









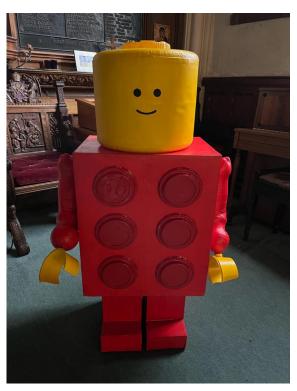














# ACTION FOR CHILDREN "BRADFORD BABY STEPS APPEAL"

The Circuit Social Justice Group (CSJG) wanted to support a local Action for Children Project and as there weren't any in Huddersfield, they looked a little further afield and found out about *Bradford Baby Steps*.

This antenatal programme supports disadvantaged parents and those with additional needs, to improve the quality of life for children and families experiencing hardship.

The intention is that no mum going into hospital to have her baby should be short of essential items for herself or her newborn. This led to the collection of toiletries, towels, underwear for the mum and sleepsuits, vests, nappies, baby wipes and blankets for baby.



An appeal was made to the congregation and groups who meet at Lindley, along with a display put together for our monthly Saturday Marketplace. As a result, we had an overwhelming response. Ladies were quick to reach for their knitting and sewing needles and an abundance of beautiful blankets, bags for mum's and baby's items to be kept in, along with little cardigans, began to appear.

We also started to find bags of very cute little baby clothes along with nappies, baby wipes and other toiletries. People brought lovely little cuddly toys and other baby requisites which are needed but are so expensive to purchase. The love and care shown by the items we received was truly moving. Everyone has been so generous in these times of change, when we're all feeling the increase in living costs.



On Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September a Coffee morning was held at Dalton St Paul's, in aid of Action for Children where each Church took along the items they had collected for the appeal. Lindley had two cars full of donations – just from our Church family! When we went into the room allocated for collecting the donations it was already about a third full with items from other Churches and yet during the course of the morning more and more arrived! The grandmas amongst us (well me, anyway!) were "ooing and aahing" over the beautiful blankets and sweet little outfits, piled high around the room, along with boxes of toiletries, nappies and baby wipes to mention only a few of the thoughtful things people had donated. It's safe to say, everyone was overwhelmed - especially the lady who came to collect everything - by the kindness and generosity in evidence before her. I forgot to ask if she'd come in a removal van!

Many, many thanks to all who participated in some way. I'm sure everything will be very much appreciated and put to good use. Such a wonderful example of Christians showing their love for others.

Ruth Schofield Action for Children Representative, Lindley Methodist Church



#### **GRAPEVINE MEETS HELEN HALL**

Can you give a brief introduction to yourself – eg when you started coming to Lindley/why you still come/etc.

Hi, I'm Helen. I grew up here at Lindley Methodist and have always felt a part of the church family. I moved around a bit after University (Loughbrough, Banbury, Harrogate..) but eventually moved back to Huddersfield in 2009 with my partner Phil and we got married at Lindley in 2012. It felt a natural place to return back to Lindley with my girls, where I have always felt welcome.

#### What is/was your job? In an alternative universe, what job might you have chosen?

I currently do two part-time jobs. Hopefully you know that one is Lindley Methodist's Booking Officer but I'm also the joint Business-Manager at Lindley out of School Club.

I've always been interested in Meteorology so maybe in another world I'd have been a weather presenter!



#### What are you reading at the moment?

I don't get a chance to read as much as I would like to but I've been working my way through George RR Martin's 'Game of Thrones' and I've just started his final book 'The Dance of Dragons'. They are well written books, pure escapism with plenty of interesting and complex characters. In my opinion, the books are (almost) always better than the film / tv series!

#### Tell us something that not many people know about you?

I worked for Majestic Wine for ten years and I am a professional wine taster!

#### Who is your favourite person from the bible?

There are many I admire, but I keep coming back to Ruth as the only female to have been allowed a book in the bible. She showed lots of personal sacrifice, was strong enough to stick to her instincts and went above and beyond to help others - all characteristics of an excellent role model.

#### What is your favourite hymn, and why?

I can't decide on one! 'In Christ Alone' had a profound effect on me when I was a teenager and is still a very powerful hymn. A family favourite is 'Love Divine' and always reminds me of my Granny (on my mum's side) which we sang at our wedding. Jerusalem is also a personal favourite.

#### Where would you like to be right now?

Italy! I love our family holidays in places I know well like the Lake District or Cornwall, but I can't wait to go back to Italy exploring the Northern Lakes, Tuscan hills or medieval cities (along with the red wine / pizza / ice cream!).

#### What makes your heart sing?

Watching my girls sleeping soundly.

#### What do you do to relax?

Going for a walk in the local hills and countryside or doing some mindful colouring.

#### What luxury would take to a desert island?

A chilled bottle of Ruinart blanc de blancs.

#### Where would you go to in a time machine?

I never met / knew either of my grandads, so I would love to go back to when they were alive / growing up / life during the war and afterwards when they had their families.

#### **HUDDERSFIELD PENNINE PROBUS CLUB**

Meetings are held at Oakes Baptist Church commencing at 10.30am with refreshments served from 10.00am.

New members are very welcome!

Programme for Autumn 2	Speaker	
12 September	Annual General Meeting 0020 followed by Beetle Drive	
26 September	Talk on a Walk around Woodale, Holmfirth	Pam Cooksey
10 October	Holidays in the 50s and 60s	Vincent Dorrington
24 October	Keeping Safe on Darker Nights	Bev Fox (Local Community Police Officer)
14 November	Retirement for Beginners	Jeff Jacklin
28 November	PRESIDENT'S DINNER	
12 December	Christmas Songs and Music	Mount Community Music Group

For further details, please contact Richard Thompson

Tel: 01484 311028

#### **GARDENING WITH GEORGE**

Plant lore from George Anderson, Retired Head of School of Horticulture at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, and presenter of BBC Scotland Beechgrove



I think that it is safe to say we have 'enjoyed' a mixed summer. Hot and dry in June, cool and damp in July and decidedly mixed in August and September.

However the temperatures both during the day and at night are lower than they previously were back when the sun shone and was 'splitting the pavements'.

Provided they are supplied with ample water, plants enjoy and thrive during warm spells. Tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbages and French and runner beans have done well at the allotment when water was aplied. This year I also planted some sweet potatoes, just to try out the climate of my home in Edinburgh. Covered with a sheet of polythene to keep the humidity high around the plants, they have thrived in the bright sunshine but the success or failure of my experimental planting will be revealed later in October when it is time to lift and harvest the tubers. When I investigated them last week the tubers were the size of one's little finger so they have some way to go yet. The grandchildren harvested and enjoyed the garden peas and developed a taste for broad beans after the head gardener demonstrated how to double pod them.

I lifted the potatoes last week and was amazed at how dry the soil still remains even after the odd heavy showers we have experienced of late. I think it will take some time before the soil is thoroughly wetted once again. In anticipation of the coming autumn rains, I have sown some red clover as a green manure crop. The seed is already starting to germinate, thanks to the warmth in the soil and the occasional shower. It will be allowed to grow over winter and then be dug into the earth come the spring, to add some extra nutrients and fibre to my light sandy soil.



In the cold glasshouse the tomatoes and cucumbers have given us lots of salad ingredients and the three plants of aubergine have produced well too. Soon however they will have finished cropping and will be removed and recycled via the compost heap. Such is the cycle of the seasons.

The bedding plants bought and planted out into large pots continue to flower with great abundance and will continue to do so until the first frosts render them limp and helpless. We

have enjoyed their cheeriness just as much as they have enjoyed the sunshine, water and nutrients that the head gardener has lavished upon them.

All in all, it has been a productive and successful gardening season. Soon it will be time to plant spring bulbs, look through seed catalogues and start planning for next year. Gardening is a journey of faith, hope and love.

Wherever you garden – keep smiling and enjoy your space.

George



#### **RIZIKI NEWS – OCTOBER 2023**

Dear All.

This newsletter is written by Sarah Hunwicks, who has just returned from a short, first visit to Riziki. Minor amendments by us are in italics.



#### **Newsletter Article**

Greetings from Riziki! Like many of you reading this I have followed the progress of Riziki for 13 years. I have a particular link to the project given that my Dad (John Hunwicks) had the original idea to set up the home and I have now finally had a chance to visit. As I sit in Nairobi on my journey home, I would like to share my experience with you.

Dad's aim was to provide shelter, food, and education for children he saw living on a rubbish tip in Kenya and to do that by supporting Kenyans to manage the project for Kenyan children. It started with some funds raised in Dorset, and the dedication of Julius and Esther Kivindyo in Nakuru who put in all the work to make things happen on the ground, not to mention the support of Ian and Diana Hogley, who introduced Dad to Kenya and to Julius in the first place and have supported the project ever since. To summarise the huge amount of work in those early days; in a nutshell, land was purchased on which stood two mud huts, a huge building project was achieved, and the first children arrived.

Thirteen years later, I have found a peaceful, secure place that is so much more than a house where some otherwise homeless children live. It is truly a home that is an integral part of a wider community and is also an enterprise that is growing by the day. The original plot has expanded and now stands at 8.4 acres with a range of well- built buildings. No mains water is needed as rainwater is collected from the rooves in 2 huge underground tanks to provide drinking water (when filtered) and all washing and sanitation needs. (In times of drought this does need supplementing for drinking). On the Shamba (small farm) cows, sheep, chickens, and rabbits are kept providing milk, eggs and meat. A wide range of crops are grown, including maize, beans, vegetables, fruit, and sugar cane. Grain storage and milling is all achieved on site meaning a generous and nutritious diet is possible all year round for the children and very little food must be bought. Some crops are grown to propagate seed for larger crops (negating the need to buy bulk seed) and some crops feed the livestock, so feed doesn't have to be bought in either. To date, it has been possible at times to sell excess water and produce to the local community, along with use of the milling machine, which contributes to staffing and maintenance costs.

The infrastructure has grown to include the main home, extra wings for the older boys and girls when not boarding at secondary school, a house for the Director to live on site and host visitors and volunteers, a barn, a polytunnel, a chicken shed, cattle shed, sheep shed and large rabbit hutch, and a 20ft deep dam holding rainwater, channelled off the road for the irrigation of the Shamba. Three members of staff farm the Shamba full time, but the children join in on Saturdays, gaining an understanding of the skills and processes, and at harvest time it is truly all hands to the pump!







Seedlings and crops drying



Maize cobs drying before storage in grain towers



Main Home today



Director's House and volunteer accommodation

And so to the children themselves... Currently Riziki has guardianship of 24 children granted by the Kenyan government (it is a registered Non-Governmental Organisation); also 5 have graduated at the age of 18 with some support still given by Riziki to support acquisition of skills and tertiary education. The story behind each child is heartbreaking, which makes it even more remarkable to find them clearly feeling secure and safe, enjoying their education, helping with their 'duties' around the home, fun-loving and chatty, and proud to show a visitor round their home. Normally the position of Social Worker is a full-time role as the Primary Caregiver, overseeing all aspects of the children's welfare. However, this is currently vacant while the right replacement is found, but the team is rallying together to cover this role -'Mama Elizabeth' (Riziki's Cook of 13 years) and 'Mama Irene' (the Cleaner of 11/2 years) are doing as their names suggest, being mothers to the children. As well as doing their official jobs, they clearly love the children, and are loved in return. Following years of dedicated work Julius and Esther continue their passionate support of Riziki, but today their daughter Liz is the remarkable person who holds a salaried position to run the Riziki Organisation. A few years ago, she came to help with various aspects, and gradually relinquished her business in Nairobi as she grew into the role of running Riziki. For the last few years Liz has researched, and led the development of the Shamba, managed the staff and overseen the welfare and education of the children, and generally been the driving force behind the growth with the support and encouragement of her parents and Ian and Diana in the UK.



Playtime, chores, and drawing and colouring

So, what does the future hold for Riziki? Liz has a vision, that is shared by others, that one day Riziki can, and will be, self-sustaining and she has many, many ideas of how to gradually achieve that through steady development of farming, community projects, use of technology and innovation, and reduction of educational costs without losing the quality.

Needless to say, financial support from the UK remains critical over the next few years to ensure success, and some work has started to grow a small team to continue all the hard work that Dad, Mum, Ian and Diana and many others have done over the last 13 years to raise awareness in the UK, in gaining supporters and in working with the Kenyan team to provide confidence that every single penny raised is used wisely to the benefit of the children that need it. After only 3 days I came away feeling extremely positive and comfortable that Riziki is truly thriving and has a very bright future. I feel confident in saying that Dad would be absolutely delighted to see how far his idea has come and where it is going. So, to finish, I would just like to say a very huge thank you from me and all at Riziki for your continued support.



Sarah at Riziki with three children

#### Our comments and prayer concerns

We, Diana & Ian, had expected to be in Kenya from the end of September to early November. Unfortunately, a week before departure, Diana fell in our lounge and broke her femur leading to an emergency hip replacement! She is recovering well but it will be some weeks yet before we can even think of travelling again.

#### Prayer concerns

We pray that Riziki finds a new social worker who can be fully committed to the welfare of all the children.

We pray for Julius as he settles to having his dialysis in a new place. We thank God for the continued commitment of the Riziki staff.

We pray for all the children preparing for examinations at the end of the school year.

Many blessings, lan & Diana

#### For donations from within UK

The best way to make a donation to Riziki is through The Aenon Trust. This is a UK charity which facilitates giving to projects including several children's homes in Kenya. Donations by UK taxpayers may be Gift Aided through The Aenon Trust. All such giftings are transferred to the projects in full by the Trust, with no deductions. Cheques should be made payable to The Aenon Trust and sent to:

Mr A.E.Nicholls, MBE FRGS, 137 Belvedere Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA7 4PA, with a note saying the gift is for Riziki. The Aenon Trust has a new email address. aenontrust@gmail.com.

Direct payments can be made to: NATWEST BANK, Bexleyheath, Sort Code 51-70-14, for the credit of The Aenon Trust, Account No 36591483. If using this method an email should be sent to Allan to let him know the gift is for Riziki. If preferred, gifts may be sent through us at Wayfields, Briar Court, HOLMFIRTH, HD9 2JJ.

Donations from outside UK may be sent to Mr Nicholls or to us at the above addresses.

Regular donations can be made by Standing Orders. I can supply Gift Aid declaration forms or Standing Order forms, for regular donations, if desired.

Our Riziki website is accessed on http://riziki-kenya.weebly.com/ or by Googling 'Riziki Nakuru'.

lan & Diana Hogley, 'Wayfields', Briar Court, HOLMFIRTH, HD9 2JJ, UK. Tel 01484 680634. <u>ian.c.hogley@outlook.com</u> and <u>diana.hogley@outlook.com</u>

If you wish to update your email preferences or unsubscribe, please let us know at either of the above addresses and we will deal with your request.

### **EXTERNAL GROUPS @Lindley**

Monday to Friday					
Lindley Pre-School	9:00am to 6:00pm				
	07905-725130				
	hello@lindleypreschool.co.uk				
Lindley Out of School Club	7:30 to 9:00am; 3:30 to 6:00pm				
	07894587130				
	lindleyoutofschoolclub@googlemail.com				
Monday					
Imperial Quilters	7:15 to 9:15pm monthly				
Tuesday					
Baby Massage	9:30 to 10:30am				
Pilates	6:30 to 7:30pm				
Gledholt Male Voice	7:30 to 9:30pm				
Choir					
Wednesday					
U3A Watercolour	10:00 to 12:00noon				
Society					
Huddersfield Youth	5:45 to 8:00pm				
Choirs	-				
Thursday					
Mini First Aid	6:30 to 8:30pm monthly				
Marsh Ladies Choir	7:30 to 9:30pm				
Friday					
Art Venturers	1:30 to 2:30pm				

## WHAT'S ON @Lindley

Sundays					
Morning Worship	10:45am				
Minor Prophets (11+	7:00 to 9:00pm fortnightly				
Group)					
Monday					
Parent & Toddlers	9:30 to 11:30am				
Guides	7:30 to 9:00pm				
Tuesday					
Beavers	6:15 to 7:15pm				
Open the Book	8:30 to 10:00am (monthly-ish)				
Wednesday					
Wednesday Fellowship	1:30 to 4:30pm (1st Weds in month)				
Cubs	6:30 to 8:00pm				
Thursday					
Coffee Stop	10:00am to 12:00noon				
Armchair Keep Fit	10:30 to 11:30am				
Scouts	7:30 to 9:00pm				
Garden & Nature	7:00 to 8:00pm (1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday on				
	Zoom)				
Supper Club	6:30 to 8:30pm (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs in				
	month)				
Friday					
Brownies	6:15 to 7:30pm				
Saturday					
Market Place	10:00am to 12:00noon (1st Sat of				
	month)				
Walking Group	Monthly – see programme				