

Churches working together to provide a fun-filled week for all!

Lighthouse DAILY NEWS

Monday 28 July 2008 • Lighthouse Thame 2008 • www.lighthousehame.org.uk



"How does this go together again?" The pre-event setup crew at work!

Lighthouse has started

We asked Linda Newton and Dianne Brackley, Leader and Secretary of the Lighthouse team, to tell us about Lighthouse, how it started and why we're doing it in Thame.

Lighthouse was started in Great Missenden in 1987. Several churches over there felt God calling them to work with children and young people during the school holiday. They planned daily sessions for children aged 5-11, hired a large marquee and erected it on the playing field in the village centre, but were amazed when around 370 children turned up on the first day – and came back for more for the rest of that week! By 1999 nearly 2000 children were accommodated in eleven marquees and two halls!

By 2007, events were held in Great Missenden, Hazlemere, Burnham and Princes Risborough.

Throughout its phenomenal growth the organisers have tried never to lose sight of some key guiding principles! Lighthouse involves all the churches in an area, working in harmony. No children are charged to attend, although donations are welcome. Children of any faiths or no faith, as well as church families are all equally welcome to attend. All Lighthouses are staffed entirely by volunteers.

We are very excited

by the launch of the first Lighthouse in Thame. The response from churches in Thame and surrounding areas has been terrific! Many of the Thame committee have been actively involved in the running of Lighthouse in Princes Risborough over the last couple of years, so we know what we're letting ourselves in for!

Each year God has provided for all the needs of each Lighthouse. We thank God for his amazing love and never-ending goodness to us all. ■

What did we do today?

Children met their 'Lighthouse' (group of 15 kids), 'Lighthouse Keeper' (adult group leader) and 'Lampighter' (assistant).

We learnt the words and actions to all the funky Lighthouse songs.

We had a great time!

Visit us online!

Daily photo updates at www.lighthousehame.org.uk

You might also be interested in this opportunity to help Linda Newton: www.justgiving.com/gungelinda

Parent's Cafe

Open daily at drop off and pick up times by the main entrance.

Fresh coffee & cakes will be available (yum!) and we will also be selling Lighthouse merchandise.



Monday 28 Birthdays

Jaden Way
Shona Reid Evans
(6/7 Lampighter)



Please remember for tomorrow!

Tuesday Lunchbox Challenge: the craziest hairdo!

Lunch Boxes: We have some children who are severely allergic to nuts. Could you please tell your children to not share their food with others in order to avoid risk to other children.

Sun! We love the sun, but our skin doesn't! Please remember to apply plenty of suncream and send your child with a sun hat and a (full) water bottle.





KidzKlub Thame starts in October! Working closely with Lighthouse, KidzKlub will offer the same flavour of fun, activity and learning. Once a month, for an hour, on a Saturday morning.

We expect that the limited spaces will go quickly – so book your place now!

More information and application forms from the Admin tent or www.kidzklubthame.org



Lighthouse Thame 2008

July 28 - August 1

Lighthouse is a Christian holiday week for local children and young people run by volunteers from local churches. Contact us during the week only on 07722 088895 or visit www.lighthousehame.org.uk

- Barley Hill Church, Thame
- Christchurch, Thame
- community church thame
- Cornerstone Church, Thame
- Church of Good Shepherd, Hadd.
- Haddenham Baptist Church
- Haddenham Methodist
- Long Crendon Baptist Church
- Oasis Church, Thame
- Our Lady of Light, Long Crendon
- St Catherine's, Towersey
- St Joseph's, Thame
- St Mary's, Haddenham
- St Mary's, Long Crendon
- St Mary's, Thame
- St Nicholas, Chearsley
- St Peter & St Paul, Dinton

We operate as part of a registered charity (1071892).

We operate strict child protection policies.

We are closely related to thamechurchesunited, a partnership of churches in and around Thame, working together for the community www.thamechurchesunited.org

thamechurchesunited
serving people in and around Thame



More fun and games! Top, more silliness from 'Little and Large', or setup team. Bottom, kids having fun at Lighthouse 2007 (Princes Risborough)

Site manager Mike



Each day in Lighthouse News we plan to meet one of the volunteers on staff. Today, we meet Mike Thompson who has done an amazing job setting up the site.

Mike, what do you do when you're not here?

I work for Sovereign World Trust, a Christian charity that distributes new books to

pastors, leaders and libraries in the developing world. We have an emphasis on books that teach about both word and spirit. Prior to that I worked in HR for MAF, a Christian charity that operate the 'flying doctor' sort of small planes!

So, how did you come to be involved in Lighthouse?

Lighthouse Committee members knew that I'd had previous experience of working on large outdoor events, and I was asked to be part of the team. (The so-called, 'Linda Newton factor'!)

What makes you want to take a week (or more) off work to do this?

I enjoy the working in the background facilitating others to 'do the job'. I think events like this need good facilitation! I've got 2 grandchildren, and I'm very excited that events like Lighthouse give kids a perspective and framework of moral values for their lives, based on Christian principles.

370 and counting – we've got space for more!

At the time of going to print we've got over 370 children registered but still have space for a few more – so tell all your friends about it tonight and bring them along tomorrow. (To save time on arrival, please ask them to download and complete an application form from our website at www.lighthousehame.org.uk)

Parents' Ponderings

This daily column will help you understand what your child(ren) have been learning about today!

In this Olympic year it's perhaps fitting that our Lighthouse theme is Champions!

Olympic preparation requires lot of hard work from a lot of different people! We can see that from media coverage of preparations for London 2012!



The athletes also need to commit to years of personal preparation and training. They need to dig deep and find inner strength, courage and dedication. They need to avoid distraction – and unfortunately we see all too often in the media stories of athletes who are derailed through the choices they make. They need to work with personal coaches to help them become all that they were destined to be!

Life is a bit like this too! It's a race to be run; we have personal choices to make; preparation to be done and, at times, courage to be found.

That's the theme we're going to be exploring this week at Lighthouse. The Bible has some practical down-to-earth advice on *running the race of life* and about how God wants to help us live as *Champions* those that complete our races, rather than falling by the wayside.

And the good news we find in the Bible is that *God himself wants to be our 'personal coach'* as we become all that he destined us to be!

Today (day 1) we look at *Direction* as we explore the story of Jesus in the temple from Luke 2:41-52. Jesus himself started the race young – and so can we!