

GOODNEWS

Reaching into Communities, Sharing Good News, Making a Difference

SERVE DAY

SATURDAY 13TH JULY 2019

REACHING THE FINAL

The key to Lucas Moura's success isn't necessarily what you think

Strength. Determination. Skill...and hours of practice. These are the things that most people believe turn ordinary men into champions, but for some professional football players there's an extra ingredient.

Born in Brazil in August 1992, Lucas Rodrigues Moura da Silva,

more commonly known as Lucas Moura, grew up playing football. He left home at just 13 years of age to live in a training centre in Sao Paulo, and prior to that he had lived in an area that was rife with crime and drugs.

While thankful for the positive influence that his parents provided and for the education he received, Moura says that much of his success can be attributed to the presence of God in his life.

While he was growing up, most members of his family were practicing Catholics (as is common in Brazil), but Lucas himself was not at all committed. It wasn't until after he joined Paris Saint Germain in 2013 that he developed a faith of his own.

"After I arrived in France, I met people who came to work with me and in a very simple and very wise way they were showing me the Word of God, the Bible, showing me more about Jesus"

He has played for the Brazilian national team over 30 times, and now plays club football for Tottenham Hotspur. After scoring a hat-trick for Spurs in the

2019 Champions League semi-final, he is quoted as simply saying, "God is wonderful". His third vital goal was scored in the 96th minute and he celebrated on Instagram by simply quoting a verse from the Bible - "For with God nothing shall be impossible."

The win set up an all-English Champions League Final with Moura's team eventually losing to Liverpool. For a boy who came from a deprived area where crime was around every corner, being a runner-up in the Champions League could have remained a dream, but his faith allowed him to turn it into a reality.

Speaking of his natural footballing ability, he says "Not only do I believe that it is a great gift from God and I believe that if he gave me this talent, this gift it is because he wants to use me in this environment, in the midst of football, He wants to fulfil some purpose of Him through football"

"I want to be remembered as a man of God, a person with good attitude, I believe that is what matters most, the character, the good example of a person who helps people to find God."

Despite his success as a football player, Lucas Moura still finds fulfilment through his beliefs. "I had lots of worries about moving away from home and now I can safely say that all of my doubts that I had in relation to this, in relation to God and the Bible, to the world, the creation to all these things practically disappeared; I am a much safer person, I live at peace with myself and with my future. I know that God gives me a security, a comfort and this allows me to be happy."



Join us on Saturday
July 13th for:

Celebrations

Events

Food

And Lots of Fun!

**SEE WHAT'S
HAPPENING
ON SERVE
DAY ON
PAGE 5**

Inside this issue:



Family Fun



Making a difference



Compassion

Photo of Lucas Moura by Mohan.
Used with permission.

POP UP POUND STORE

MAKE A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

First Saturday of the month - come and grab a bargain at the Arena Pop Up Pound Store

3rd August
7th September
5th October
2nd November
7th December
9am - 12pm

Bargains to be had! £1 per item...or less!

Toys, books, clothing, window blinds, bedding, curtains, and much more!

There'll be refreshments including warm and cold drinks. It's just £1 for a drink and a cake.

Get a bargain at the Hub on Belfield Street, Ilkeston!

See you there!

For Further Information: www.arenacommunity.co.uk
info@arenacommunity.co.uk • 0115 944 2996 (Opt. 2)

Arena Community is a Company Limited by Guarantee.
Registered in England & Wales No. 05116407 & Registered Charity No. 1115569
Registered Address: Cliffe House Hill, 22-26 Nottingham Road, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 8AA

© Copyright 2019 - The material in ARENA CHURCH GOOD NEWS is protected by copyright. If you wish to reproduce anything, please contact the church. While every care is taken to be accurate, we are only human and mistakes do occur occasionally.

If you are unhappy with any of the content in the paper, please contact the editor in the first place. If you have a view on any of the articles, please write and let us know. Your letters are always welcome.

Find us or write to us at:
1 RUTLAND STREET, ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE, DE7 8DG

Or contact us by email at:
ADMIN@ARENACHURCH.CO.UK

Founded in 1929, Arena Church Ilkeston has been pioneered and guided by many faithful leaders. We plant and repurpose new churches both locally and further afield. Hundreds of people serve on our Dream Teams, impacting and serving thousands of people every month throughout local communities.

We have outstanding connections with local charities, business owners, Government leaders, MPs and the Police. Everybody is somebody at Arena Church, and all are welcome to connect through our Small Groups, where strong relationships are formed and discipleship is nurtured.

Come and see how exciting and vibrant church can be when the focus is clear and people are free to seek God with passion.



FOOD SERVED UNTIL 1.45PM

- BREAKFAST -

BACON SANDWICH	£1.85
<small>Served with 3 rashers of bacon</small>	
BACON BAGUETTE	£2.10
<small>Served with 3 rashers of bacon</small>	
BACON, MUSHROOM & MELTED CHEESE BAGUETTE	£2.60
BEANS ON TOAST	£1.80
TOAST	£1.10
<small>2 slices served with butter</small>	
JAM OR MARMALADE	£0.20

- TOASTED SANDWICHES -

CHEESE	£2.30
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	
2 FILLINGS	£2.60
<small>CHOOSE FROM: HAM - MUSHROOM - ONION - TOMATO - TUNA</small>	
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	

- SANDWICHES -

CHOOSE FROM:	
EGG, TUNA, HAM OR CHEESE	£2.20
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	
PRAWNS IN ROSE MARIE SAUCE	£2.85
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	

- BAGUETTES -

CHOOSE FROM:	
EGG, TUNA, HAM OR CHEESE	£2.60
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	
PRAWNS IN ROSE MARIE SAUCE	£3.00
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	

- JACKET POTATOES -

WITH BUTTER	£2.50
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	
CHEESE, TUNA, COLESLAW, BEANS	£0.50 EACH
CHILI, CHICKEN, CURRY OR PRAWNS	£3.85
<small>Served with salad garnish</small>	

- SALADS -

CHOOSE FROM A VARIETY OF TOPPINGS:	
EGG, TUNA, HAM OR CHEESE	£4.00
<small>Served with half a baguette and butter</small>	
PRAWNS IN ROSE MARIE SAUCE	£4.35
<small>Served with half a baguette and butter</small>	

- DRINKS -

YORKSHIRE TEAS	£1.10
FILTER COFFEE	£1.40
CAPPUCCINO	£1.90
LATTE	£1.90
WITH SYRUP	£2.25
MOCHA	£2.20
HOT CHOCOLATE	£1.85
FRUIT TEAS	£1.20

- KIDS LUNCH BOX -

A CHOICE OF CHEESE, HAM, EGG OR TUNA SANDWICH WITH CRISPS, KRISPIE CAKE, FROMAGE FRAIS, AND CUP DRINK £2.35

- SUNDAY SPECIALS -

CAPPUCCINO, LATTE AND HOT CHOCOLATE £1.00 EACH
TEA AND FILTER COFFEE FREE OF CHARGE

“Blend and Brew” at Arena Ilkeston
1 Rutland Street, DE7 8DG

0115 9442996

Opening times
Monday, Wednesday and Saturday 10am to 2pm

We have a selection of speciality coffees available.

Wednesday Special £4.99
Choice from the menu + choice of cake
Filter coffee or tea including a refill



FOLLOW ARENA CHURCH ON
SOCIAL MEDIA @arenachurch

www.arenachurch.co.uk

GOOD NEWS - SERVE DAY



Do for ONE that you would like to do for EVERYONE.

Matthew 20:28 The Passion Translation "For Jesus did not come expecting to be served by everyone, but to serve everyone, and to give his life in exchange for the salvation of many."

I have known people do

NOTHING because they say, "What difference will my giving or service make amongst so much need?". I have also heard it say by some that "What you do for one, you must do for everyone!"

Now don't get me wrong I understand in part the sentiment of these two statements, but I don't agree with them. **You see**

sometimes all I can do is for the ONE.

But I "Do for ONE that I would like to do for EVERYONE". This principle has helped me and my family serve and make a difference in so many lives with at times limited resource, money, time and energy.

Don't become overwhelmed by the level of need, just meet the need that you can!

My wife and I with our family have the joy of sponsoring 3 children through a great organisation called Compassion. Our monthly giving provides health care, schooling, clothing and feeding for ONE in a rural part of Kenya and Uganda but in fact this in turn serves the child's family. It's like a simple stone tossed into a river that sends ripples further afield. We committed to give because we wanted to make a difference in people's lives not just locally but in some of the poorest parts of the world and as Bono once said "**We can be the generation that no longer accepts that an accident of latitude determines whether a child lives or dies**".

- We can't serve the whole Kenyan and Ugandan community,

but we can serve 3!

This also plays out in how we serve. I know I personally can't serve EVERY old person, widow, lonely person, abused person or EVERY young family in our community. We can't paint EVERY vandalised wall or rebuild EVERY broken-down fence. We can't serve EVERY local school, old people's home or nursery. Neither can we feed EVERY hungry person or serve EVERY addict or homeless person. **But we can do it for ONE.**

This is why Serve Day exists. It's a time when the people of Arena Church and its partners come out in force on ONE day to serve the ONE. So, when you see on Saturday July 13th red t-shirts with Serve Day on, may this inspire you to make a difference and serve the ONE who may be in need in your path!

May God bless YOU.

Kristian Thorpe
Lead Pastor Arena Church



ARENA CHURCH, ILKESTON - 1 RUTLAND STREET, DE7 8DG



ARENA CHURCH, MANSFIELD - 66 LEEMING STREET, NG18 1NG

SERVING THE COMMUNITY AND WORLD

By Pastor Phil Pye

This edition of Arena Church's Good News paper centres around our special Serve Day on July 13th. You will be pleased to know that at Arena serving is not just defined by a once a year calendar day - This day is a coordinated concentration of effort - but a committed, consistent lifestyle that helps hundreds of people every week. Our visionary mantra of Loving and Serving really is us.

When you drive down the meaning of the word SERVANT as found in the Bible - the book Christians read and implement to help shape their lives - you begin to realise the servant response flies in the face of the shallow ambition around that often wants to be big, brilliant, best and brash.

It is illustrated by a giant figure in the second part of the Bible, known as the New Testament. His name was Paul. He was well educated, articulate and indeed was given an incredible gift for ministry. Yet he often started off his introductions to others by simply describing himself as 'Paul, a servant'

Going a bit further, this word servant literally means 'slave' or 'bound to God'. It reminds us of the paradox, the contradiction of the good news message. That the more we are 'bound' to God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, the more freely we will live.

Jesus' core group of followers, called disciples or apostles fell into the 'ambition trap' and once asked the question 'Who is going to sit on the right and left hand of Jesus in heaven', it was a shameless jockeying for position. Jesus was unimpressed and reiterated what He so powerfully exemplified in His own life, 'Whoever wants to be great among you must first be a servant'

Here are just a few reminders of what SERVING is

not, so that we do not think of it as a greasy pole ascent to gaining the favour of a distant God that ultimately proves impossible. That is religion and serving only works from relationship.

Serving is not for identity but from it. We are called to a family relationship and the security of that acceptance is the great foundation of service.

Serving is not trying to impress God with our good works. He already loves us and not only that, likes us! When Jesus came to this world, He lived in the confession that God was pleased with Him before He did anything. None of us have to serve, we get to!

Serving is not primarily an action but an attitude of the heart (our internal world). Sometimes our best efforts will be unseen, unappreciated and unrewarded, but a great heart attitude will pass the test and go again.

Serving is not a loss but a gain, it is what all of us are meant and made to do. Numerous academic studies have proved that the most genuinely fulfilled people are those who think of others.

Serving is not insignificant but essential. People often say 'I can only do this or that' as if it didn't matter. Yet the most insignificant of acts add weight to the whole, and they are gold in value.

Look out for the red-shirted army of volunteers across numbers of locations in both Ilkeston and Mansfield on July 13th. That day we want to make a difference right across the age groups in numbers of practical hands-on ways, come and say hello.

Rest assured too it won't stop there, we are here to serve, and it will go on and on and on. May you find that serving is truly living, and living is intentionally serving, and be part of the ongoing journey too.



SERVE DAY

WHAT IS SERVE DAY?

Serve Day is a community initiative pioneered by Arena Church over the past 7 years.

Hundreds of volunteers gather on one Saturday in the year to serve the local community through school gardening projects, afternoon teas for seniors, kids fun days, food giveaways, DIY and cleaning projects for those struggling in their time of need.

The aim of the day is to **love and serve the community**. Please visit www.arenachurch.co.uk for further information.

SERVE DAY

SATURDAY 13TH JULY

ILKESTON

THE HUB
BELFIELD STREET, DE7 8DU

CREAM TEA WITH REFRESHMENTS
FROM 12 - 2PM

BEAUVALE PARK
COTMANHAY

FAMILY FUN ON THE PARK
FROM 10AM - 2 PM WITH KIDS ENTERTAINMENT,
GIVEAWAYS & CRAFTS

THE PROJECT
102 BATH STREET, DE7 8FE

WITH TREATS & GIVEAWAYS
THROUGHOUT THE DAY

ARENA HOPE
22 MARKET PLACE, DE7 5QA

WITH TREATS & GIVEAWAYS
THROUGHOUT THE DAY

SERVE DAY

SATURDAY 13TH JULY

MANSFIELD

TITCHFIELD PARK FROM 2 - 4PM

WITH KIDS ACTIVITIES, FACE PAINTING,
SPORT ACTIVITIES, GIVEAWAYS,
LIVE MUSIC AND A DRINK ON US



THE Workshop CAFÉ

Cut out and present this coupon for

10% off at Workshop Cafe

Cannot be used in conjunction with our loyalty card or any meal deal offers. Valid until 31st October 2019.

A GREAT PROJECT

By Lee Thorpe

My role at The Project is to help and teach the students and volunteers in upcycling furniture that would otherwise be destined for landfill.

Upcycling is a technique that takes something that is no longer useful, outdated, or broken, and refreshes or modernises it to make it appealing and useful once again.

I work with a small but dedicated team made up of part time staff and volunteers including students from Derby college who come to gain experience in a work place environment, and to learn how to repair and prepare the furniture ready for painting and then the different techniques used to paint it.

It gives me immense satisfaction seeing the furniture finished and ready for

sale. I especially enjoy seeing the smile on the students' faces when they have finished a piece of furniture. They have accomplished something they can be proud of.

The furniture that we upcycle is received as donations from a range of sources and can be in various states of repair. We repair and make good any defects we find in this furniture if it is needed, and it is then upcycled in our workshop.

Once the furniture is safe, functional, clean, and painted, it is then displayed for sale at The Project on the shop floor.

Any proceeds made from the sale of these items of furniture is used to help the community in a range of ways, including helping to support the foodbank and provide services for people who are in need.



FOLLOW THE PROJECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA @theprojectarena

www.theprojectilkeston.co.uk



HAVE YOU VISITED THE WORKSHOP CAFE?

By Gemma & Kirsty at The Workshop Cafe in The Project

Customer service is number one at The Workshop Cafe and The Project. We pride ourselves on our service and we always have a smile for everyone.

One thing that makes us feel good is having known that we have made someone smile or laugh, or just had a little chat with the customers who are sitting on their own.

We endeavour to make our customers feel welcome by remembering their faces, their names and even their orders.

Many of our customers comment on how approachable we are and how much busier the cafe has become.



We want everyone to know that they are important to us, and go out of our way to make everyone feel welcome - after all, everybody is somebody at The Project.

Some of our regular customers have very kindly

given us permission to share what they think about The Workshop Cafe.

Here's what they said:

I love coming here and I enjoy the food, the staff are very polite and friendly - Jean

Great staff with friendly faces. Lovely plate of chips! - Sean

A very nice and friendly place, excellent service provided by cheerful staff. Love visiting on a daily basis - Richard and Joyce

Staff are very obliging, pleasant and friendly - Ray

Staff are very helpful and polite, nothing is too much trouble - Betty

Staff are friendly, food is good and reasonably

priced, the cafe is clean and there is a very good atmosphere - Pete

So why not come along and see what we have to offer?

As well as food and drink, we have a great range of clothes and furniture available for sale. You're sure to find something that catches your eye.



THANKS FOR BEING HANDS AND FEET ACROSS THE WORLD



By Anne Basabe

At Arena Church we love launching new initiatives, we find it helps us stay fresh, current and relevant.

God calls His Church to serve those living in poverty and thanks to Arena Church's partnership with Compassion UK, we're reaching children born into poverty in Mugumo, Kenya.

Compassion is all about the individual child. They connect one child born into the vulnerability of poverty with one sponsor. Thanks to their sponsor, each child receives nutritious meals, educational support, regular medical check-ups and the support of a local church

community.

Thanks to a holistic approach, each child is empowered to overcome physical, spiritual and emotional poverty, so they can realise their God-given potential.

Anne Basabe understands more than most that one life can be turned around by one sponsor. As a former Compassion project director in Uganda, she knows how valuable it is when one child is reminded of their worth and taught they are brimming with potential. Here, she writes a letter on behalf of all sponsored children, capturing the difference Arena church is making to children at ACK Mugumo Child Development Centre, Kenya.

A letter to my lovely sponsor

Blessed are you who answered me when I called. You attended to my plea, you gave me hope when I was hopeless, you not only loved me, you taught me how to love. You have not only given me a smile, you have given me joy and confidence.

Remember the first time we met, among the many pictures that were before you, your eyes got stuck on me and you chose me. From that day you took me as your own, you hold me close to your heart as you remember me in your prayers.

What an amazing faith you have, you did not wait to see me face to face, you risked, trusted and you answered the call when you came to my rescue.

You may not understand the depth of what you did for me, but just to let you know that you saved my life, you introduced me to a gift of eternal life, I now have a future to look forward to and I have a hope of being treated when I am ill.

You are God sent. Through you I have no doubt that there is a God who cares for the neglected, destitute, lonely and the weak because I have experienced His love through you.

God created you for me

I have hope that one day

we shall meet, celebrate and rejoice together whether here on earth or in heaven, I am sure I will be able to recognise you and give you a big hug.

May God reward you, bless you and watch over you both now and always.

From your lovely daughter, son and friend.

Thank you

Arena Church began partnering with Compassion in 2012. Today, the lives of 34 children and their families are being changed thanks to the generosity of church members.

Sponsor a child today and give them life-changing support including food, education, health-checks and the care of a local church. Visit www.compassionuk.org/sponsorship or call 01932 836490 to find out more.



GOING TO NOTTINGHAM

We are looking forward and excited about the launch of our Nottingham Campus later in the year.

While there are already a number of churches in and around Nottingham, it is our continual desire to reach the whole of the M1 corridor and beyond.

To this end, we are planting multiple church campuses this year to bring the Good News to as many people as possible.

If you want to find out more about our plans, please visit our website www.arenachurch.co.uk where you will be able to see the latest updates for all of our

locations.

We approach this new campus launch with a spirit of adventure and excitement, hoping to break new ground and reach people all across Nottingham.

We're not literally heading out in a camper van, but thoroughly feel the pioneering spirit. This is a new journey for us, something different, and something special.

If you're in Nottingham when our campus launches, we'd love to see you there.

Otherwise, head over to the website and see what's happening!



WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES

By Tracy Newton

Dinah Washington sang a classic many years ago and when I think about Serve Day, its reason and its reach, I can't help but hear the lyrics dancing around in my head.

*'What a diff'rence a day makes
Twenty-four little hours
Brought the sun and the flowers
Where there used to be rain'*

Now obviously, being British we can't guarantee literal sunshine where there used to be rain but what we can guarantee is that if you turn up at The Hub on July 13th then there will be a team of volunteers waiting to serve you and make a difference in your day. Our volunteers will be hosting a free cream tea throughout the day, tidying up our shared car park area and taking goodies to local businesses.

Why? It's just a little gesture to say 'we care'. A way of taking 24 hours to make a difference to as many different people as we can.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life, some have used our services and simply wanted to give something back, some have never needed the support offered by such a place but one thing they all have in common is a shared purpose.

It was with this year's Serve Day in mind that I asked a few of those who come to The Hub regularly about what we do that makes a difference in their lives. Here is what they said:

'Coming to food bank helps me to communicate with people, keep warm, fed and dry.'

'It's great to get the essentials and more importantly the chance

to talk to people for support.'

'It's a God send to me and the people are wonderful'

'If it wasn't for the volunteers and help, I feel I would not be here. Very thankful.'

'We enjoy coming for the community and help with food and food parcels.'

'A lifeline. Brilliant.'

'I would go hungry without the foodbank.'

'I enjoy mixing with people and having a laugh, I would be lonely without everyone, big time.'

'I feel better knowing I am coming to the foodbank, that feeling lasts all day.'

'It feels good and exhilarating to get out of four walls.'

'It's clean and welcoming, no one judges you.'

'It's a good place to see people and have a chat.'

Now it's not blowing our own trumpet or boasting but when we serve, we serve on purpose. It's not an accident, it doesn't just happen, a group of people intentionally turn up, peel potatoes, pack bags, serve drinks, answer phones and do whatever needs doing.

Why? Simply to bring the sunshine where there used to be rain!!

Our volunteers can no more stop the storms in other people's lives any more than they can in their own, but what they can do is provide cover with a virtual umbrella of care and compassion

FOLLOW ARENA COMMUNITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@arenacommunity

www.arenacommunity.co.uk



In the last 12 months we have given out 4,975 hot meals and 2,810 food parcels, 28% of which given to families of 3 or more, 21% of which given to homeless, and 13% of which given to couples.

We have installed a public shower at The Hub which has been used on average 5 times a week and by over 15 homeless people since January. We have referred 36 homeless individuals for housing and/or to the council with 20 of which obtaining secure tenancy out of it.

until that storm has died down or passed.

Serve Day 2019 is a day when Arena Church does what it does best - serve the community. There will be events all around Ilkeston and Mansfield, all aimed at taking a day and making a difference. Saturday 13th July will only have 24 hours, just like every other day but for those attending Arena Church every one of those 24 hours will be

marked with a purpose, and that purpose is to serve.

We do make a difference; we will make a difference and we will continue to make a difference.

Look out for the red t-shirts on Saturday 13th of July, find out what's happening where you are and consider how you can get involved in making a difference in someone's 24 little hours.

SERVING WITH INTEGRITY

When it comes to serving, Alan Tate has always been reliable and trustworthy. He has gone above and beyond whether he is working at the Community Hub, The Project, the church, the shops, or anywhere else.

Alan always has a smile

on his face and is ready to tackle any task. He spent a lot of time as the driver's mate on the delivery van, but he is more than willing to lend a hand wherever it is needed.

After spending many years serving the team

in many capacities, Alan finally retired in June.

We'd like to say a HUGE thank you for all of his hard work and service, as we would not be where we are now without men who serve with a heart like his. We hope he enjoys every

minute of his well-deserved retirement, even though he promises we haven't seen the last of him - he'll be back to volunteer and lend a helping hand whenever and wherever it is needed.

Thank you Alan!

MOVING TO BELPER

By David Blyth

We are moving into a new season and new adventure at Belper. We have now signed the lease for the Church building at 16 High Street, which will be our new home and give us the opportunity to serve the community from there.

We are thankful to meet local people who have been so kind and helpful to us. With some love and attention to the building and gardens we hope the building will be open and

ready for use at the end of July.

There is already a thriving Mums and tots group that meet at the church each Thursday, which will become Arena tots and with a warm welcome to all who want to join.

We are hoping to open up the gardens, weather permitting, to run some events during the summer months for families in the Belper area including children's activities and cream teas.

We are looking forward to meeting up with other Churches that already meet and serve the community of Belper, to see how we can work together to help our town.

We will be meeting together for our first service on Sunday the 29th September at 4.00pm, and then each last Sunday of the month at 4.00pm - we do hope that you will join us. Our desire is to serve Belper in a practical way, demonstrating the love of God.

We will be launching an interest meeting for parents who have concerns about their children using illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco which has become a problem in most cities, towns, villages and hamlets. We use a book called "A Parent's Worst Nightmare" as a course format, that runs for four evenings and one Saturday- more information to follow on this.

Please check the website arenachurch.co.uk to keep up with what is happening in all the Arena campuses.



SERVE DAY

S A T U R D A Y 1 3 T H J U L Y 2 0 1 9

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MANSFIELD

By Josh Turner

How are we already halfway through the year? And what a year we are having in Mansfield. We recently just completed the sizeable renovation to the back of this beautiful building that we call home at Arena Mansfield as well as the kitchen renovation.

It represents our on-going commitment to our home, to develop and to move forward and of course, it isn't just development for development's sake, the reason we do this is so we can help more people, so that Arena can be home to a multitude of people from different walks of life.

The message that Jesus carried wasn't just for a few, for a certain demographic, but for everyone and that is our heart at Arena. For example, our new kitchen will allow our Community team to serve some of our community needs better, especially those who find a good meal hard to come by.

Louise and the Care for a Coffee team are doing a beyond phenomenal job of spearheading our community impact, just the other week we saw 123 people at our midweek event 'Care for a Coffee' - if you are in Mansfield between 10am and 2pm on a Tuesday or Wednesday, we'd love to see you.

The new area at the back of our building allows our Kids Church to have their own space, where they can learn, grow and play in a safe and exciting environment. We have also created some great space for conferences and meetings that will serve our business community along with one of our partners who specialise in helping young people get the skills they need to enable them to live well as an adult.

We are committed to loving and serving our community and I am confident that this is just the start of our journey.



We're always looking to improve the community around us, and so at our Mansfield building we've been working to upgrade and improve our kitchen.

We'd like to thank Adam Goddard and everyone at Howdens for their generous donation of £200 to help with these works.

The kitchen will be used to feed the homeless, elderly, and less fortunate in our community, and help us to reach those that may be otherwise excluded.



OUTRAGEOUS GENEROSITY THAT SAVED MY LIFE

By Julie Turner

We love to belong to a community of people who are outrageously generous. We are told statistically that the areas that we serve are lower incomes, there's more need, more social issues and yet over the past 12 months Arena has given away thousands of pounds through the generosity of our volunteers and partners. This may sound like a reckless statement from a charity but our whole purpose is that we are here to love and serve our world.

Each year our charity income grows and grows and it would appear that the more we give away the more we receive. In fact, we recently asked why people gave to Arena; here are a few of the replies:

"I am a single parent due to my husband's death several years ago. My journey back happened through the local church. I have

the pleasure of serving on the team at Arena Community and believe wholeheartedly in the work we do and the people we help. This is the reason I give."

"We decided to give to Arena, more than anything we have loved seeing what has been done through the money especially in our community to help people in need and are really excited to see how we can keep positively impacting our local area".

As an overseer of the Arena Finances we often talk in our team meetings that it is all about people.

We are not awash with money but are always amazed at the impact, both near and far, when we hear of lives impacted and helped.

In a world that is full of bad press we are thankful to be part of an organisation that receives good publicity.

Here is just one of those- Arena Community responds to issues of poverty, isolation, homelessness and unemployment in the former coal and steel town of Ilkeston, Derbyshire and in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire. Last year, with the help of volunteers who give nearly 300 hours a week of their time, providing practical support to 5,507 people from Ilkeston and the surrounding area.

We are embedded in the heart of the local community and seek to harness the potential within the community in order to impact the lives of marginalised people in a positive way.

Arena will continue for many years to come to be a place that provides security, hope and a warm welcome to everyone in our communities.

We do hope to see you too.



NOTTINGHAM CAMPUS

CLUMBER HALL, HIGH CROSS ST, NOTTINGHAM NG1 3AX

LAUNCHING SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER
EVERY SUNDAY AT 5PM

BELPER 16 High Street, Belper, DE56 1GH
Last Sunday Every Month 4.00pm from September

ILKESTON 1 Rutland Street, Ilkeston, DE7 8DG
Every Sunday 10:30am

MANSFIELD 66 Leeming Street, Mansfield, NG18 1NG
Every Sunday 10:30am



THE TEENAGER MAKING A DIFFERENCE



By Elliott Stockdale

Most 14-year-old students spend their secondary school life playing Fortnite, attending parties and not thinking twice about the rest of their lives. Chad Fowkes, however, is not your typical teenager.

While most people his age are trying to get their heads around Pythagoras and his triangles, Chad is debating and campaigning for equal pay for young people alongside hundreds of other youth politicians across the country.

Being the youth representative for Erewash and a member of the UK Youth Parliament cannot be easy but he is already dreaming of the prime minister hot seat.

“They call me the ‘prime minister of the classroom’ at

school,” he tells me laughingly, “it would be an honour to run the country, but it won’t ever happen.”

In a time of political uncertainty where the United Kingdom does not know whether it will be in or out of the European Union come the start of November, it is

incredible to hear a young leader say the words “It would be an honour to run the country” which just displays the pure fearlessness in his heart.

His focus right now though is not on his dreams. It is on climate change.

According to ‘Plastic Ocean’, 300 million tons of plastic is produced globally every year, with 8 million of that figure ending up discarded in the oceans across the planet. To add to that figure, approximately 40% of plastic used is single use which just shows the task that our hopeful future prime minister has ahead of him.

The debate over single use plastic has been going on for an unprecedented amount of time, with some companies taking

action, such as McDonalds who have swapped their plastic straws for cardboard ones, which has created some unnecessary unrest amongst customers.

“It is a serious subject that needs tackling; the one everyone is talking about at the moment is the McDonalds straw,” explains Chad while showing me the fast-food chain’s new cardboard alternative, “We are trying to clean up Ilkeston and Erewash, starting with the canal, we are just waiting for the all clear but doing all of this has really shown me what God wants me to do.”

Maggie Throup, Conservative MP for Erewash, has been working closely with the young ‘wannabe’ politician, even going as far as to talking about their work together in the House of Commons in front of fellow politicians and live on BBC Parliament.

As well as studying at school, attempting to clean up the area he lives in and debating in parliament, Chad is also a young leader at Arena Church’s Arena Students, working on the photography and media team.

Work will continue under the radar from Chad Fowkes, who wants nothing more than the area he lives in and the planet he lives on to be cleaned up and safe for the next generation.

From everyone at Arena Church, thank you for being a shining beacon and an inspiration to us all Chad.

THE CJS CHOIR

At our recent Community Service, we were pleased to welcome children from local schools to perform in front of the congregation, dignitaries, and other visitors.

Cotmanhay Junior School presented their choir, the CJS choir. They meet every Friday afternoon and are directed by choir master Ian Watts.

“Singing is fun and healthy! Performance brings confidence and music is proven to expand the mind in preparation for other learning needs. At Cotmanhay Junior School, we teach the children to really perform the songs they sing as well as encouraging the learning of the background musical knowledge along the way. We have noticed a massive difference in the confidence of the children in the choir when performing which is fantastic.”

To date, CJS choir have performed in various locations across the community including Victoria Park, Arena Church, Sure Start Centre, Queen’s Medical Centre and several residential homes.

BIKE RIDE SUCCESS



For those who of you who read our last edition, you may recall that Rachel Lee, a member of Arena Church in Ilkeston, was planning to cycle over 130 miles from London to Amsterdam in an attempt to raise vital funds for the charity Parkinson’s UK.

We’re pleased to report that Rachel’s ride was successful, and she has raised a significant amount of money for the work of the charity.

“I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who kindly donated to my London to Amsterdam cycle. It will truly make a difference as Parkinson’s UK is making progress all the time in finding better treatments and a cure. I am hoping to have raised £3000 by the time I have collected all my sponsors.”

“The cycle was an incredible experience and I met some inspirational people. It has been a journey I would never have believed I could achieve and goes to prove anything is possible with Jesus in your life.”

Rachel has been a part of Arena for over 10 years and has had personal experience of the issues that Parkinson’s can cause. Her friend, Peter Hopewell, and her own grandad, Charlie, suffered from the

degenerative disease.

The cycling challenge was taken on in memory of the two men and the money raised will be used to help improve treatments and continue the work of finding a cure.

About Parkinson’s

Every hour, two people in the UK are told they have Parkinson’s. It affects 145,000 people in the UK – which is around one in 350 of the adult population.

Parkinson’s is a degenerative neurological condition, for which there currently is no cure. There are more than 40 symptoms of the condition. As well as the most widely known symptom - tremor - these range from physical symptoms like muscle stiffness to depression, anxiety,

hallucinations, memory problems and dementia, but Parkinson’s affects everyone differently.

Parkinson’s UK is the UK’s leading charity supporting those with the condition.

For advice, information and support, visit www.parkinsons.org.uk or call its free, confidential helpline on 0808 800 0303.



NOT JUST OPEN ON SUNDAYS

By Christine Austin

Outside of our church services on a Sunday, our buildings on Rutland Street in Ilkeston and Leeming Street in Mansfield are busy during the week too.

Our conference and community teams host local community groups and businesses including Inspire and Achieve (facilitating the Prince's Trust programme), Slimming World, Weight Watchers, DKL Academy of Dance, National Citizen's Service, Baby Sensory, Care for a Coffee, Sweaty Mama, Leonard Cheshire, Salsa Classes, St. John Ambulance, Probus, U3A, 50+ Forum, children's

parties plus conferences and courses run by the local authorities and NHS.

At Ilkeston we also have our Blend & Brew Coffee Shop which is open to the public. It is our privilege to host around 1000 people each week through both buildings.

Our priority in all areas of Arena is people - Everyone is someone at Arena - and this is our focus through Arena Conferencing too. Our staff are friendly and professional, ensuring that everything runs smoothly for everyone.

Over the years we have built great business relationships and friendships with our customers and hirers, gaining an excellent reputation for customer service

and value for money.

All of the profits from Arena Conferencing are given to our Arena Charities for use in the local communities.

Although Arena Conferencing is a business in its own right, it is an integral part of Arena life, working hand in hand with Arena Church and Arena Community.

There are opportunities within the business to volunteer in setting up conferences through to working in the coffee shop or helping with catering or general housekeeping duties. We also welcome students from local schools and colleges to join the team for work experience.

In May we launched our Blend & Brew Buddies. This is a friendship group, predominantly

for senior citizens, which runs on a Wednesday morning between 10am and 12 noon.

It has been great to welcome senior citizens who pop in for a cuppa and chat in a very informal setting.

From dawn til dusk, Arena Conferencing staff and volunteers are working hard to ensure that people who visit our buildings, for whatever reason, are well looked after and enjoy using our venues. We look forward to welcoming many more people in the future.

Further information on Blend & Brew Buddies and activities for senior citizens is available at www.arenachurch.co.uk/seniors

YOU ARE INVITED



BUDDIES

COME AND MEET NEW FRIENDS OVER A DRINK AND CAKE

**EVERY WEDNESDAY
BETWEEN 10AM AND 12NOON**

**BLEND & BREW COFFEE SHOP AT THE ARENA
1 RUTLAND STREET, ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE, DE7 8DG**

**OUR BLEND & BREW BUDDIES PRIVILEGE CARD
ENTITLES YOU TO DISCOUNTS AND SPECIALS
FROM THE COFFEE SHOP**

PRIVILEGE CARD AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO ALL SENIOR CITIZENS



Seniors Summer Lunch

Friday 12th July
12 noon - 2.30pm
At Arena Church,
1 Rutland Street, Ilkeston, DE7 8DG

Tickets £3

Tickets available from,
Arena Hope 22 Market Place, Ilkeston, DE7 5QA
The Project, 102 Bath St, Ilkeston DE7 8FE
& **Arena Church**

www.arenachurch.co.uk / 0115 944 2996



EVERY CHILD IS VALUED

By Louise Bussell

Ever since I can remember I wanted to work with children. I vividly recall witnessing children who were from some sort of disadvantage, either academically or financially, getting a rough deal throughout their education.

This stirred something within me to do a better job and that all children deserve a 'fair crack at the whip' regardless of their background or starting point.

Inevitably this resulted in pursuing a career in teaching which I love, there is nothing better than developing and shaping children for their future. The moment they say 'oh I get it now' is better than any pay cheque.

Children have an innocent

idea of fun and it is always the motivation in doing anything, I love this energy and try to build this into what we are doing, because for an 8-year-old nothing is better than fun (except Fortnite of course!)

Away from the classroom my eight-year-old self still needs to have fun and share this with the ultimate fun makers - kids. This is something I have been involved with for over 20 years and the fun I have experienced is vast - we have been to the seaside, made dens, toasted marshmallows, hosted enormous water fights, baked, crafted, done sleepovers, stayed up all night, created lots of mess, taught tidying up and established many memorable moments.

We have told countless children they are valued and

loved by a creator, they were planned, wanted and have a bright future. Even the smallest of children's faces light up when they begin to understand that they are wanted and loved.

I feel it's important for children to be given time and space to understand they are valued and important and know that someone will listen to their concerns and worries - monsters under the bed are a real thing when you are 7!

I am currently the kid's pastor at Arena Church Ilkeston which is a role I feel humbled to hold. To have the opportunity to bring fun to 30 little people on a Sunday morning,

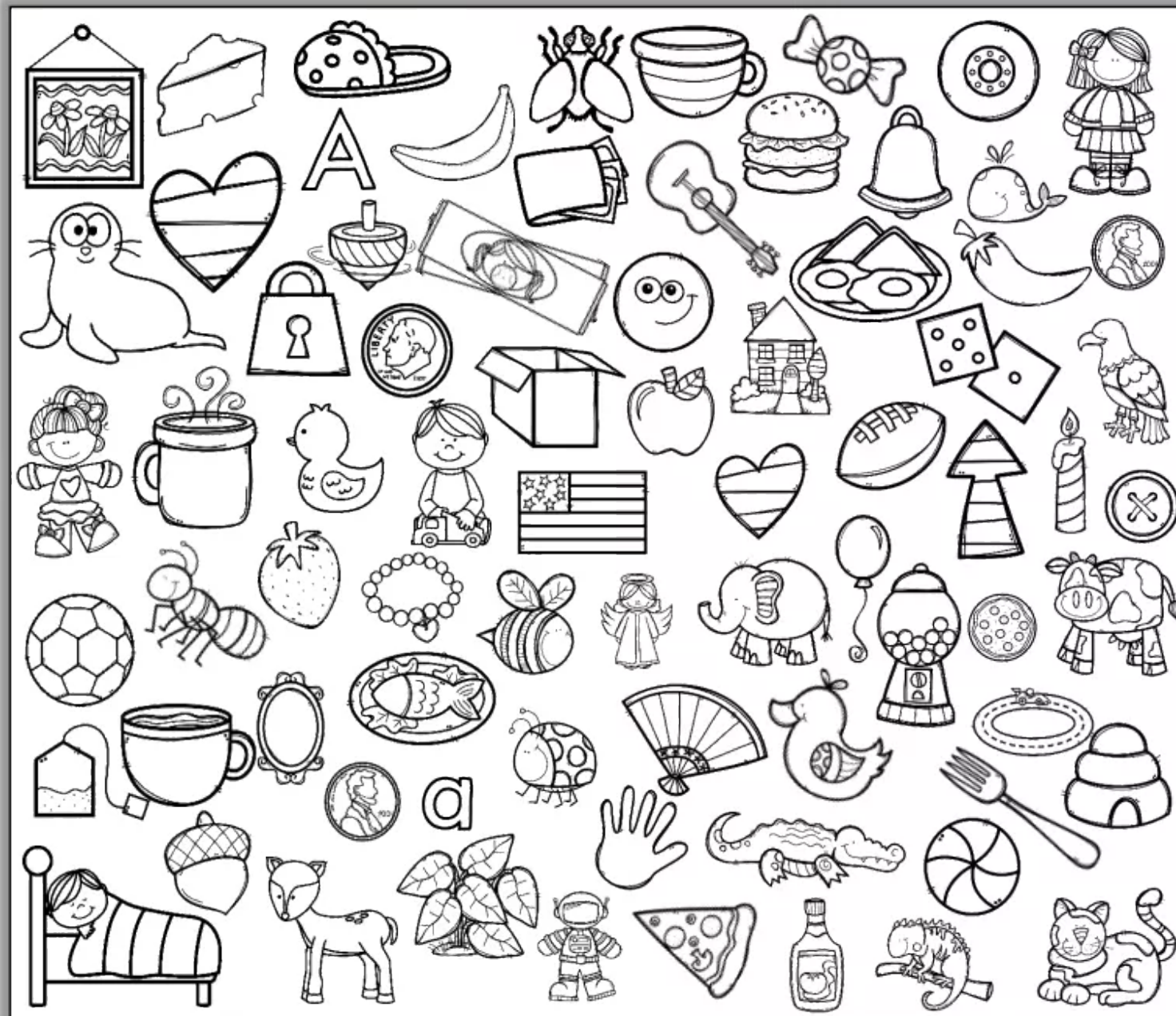
see them dance, talk and play alongside each other is a true privilege.

I understand that from time to time these children can be loud, messy and sometimes a little rude but these are the hands and hearts that will mould the future for all of us - so take some time today to watch those ultimate fun makers and imitate what they are great at - bring on the fun.



KID'S CORNER

FIND THE PICTURES AND COLOUR THEM IN. CHECK OFF EACH PICTURE AS YOU FIND IT.



	A
	a
	alligator
	ant
	apple
	angel
	acorn
	astronaut



TGIF!

By Joanna Butcher

Friday night is coming, the time to kick back, relax, put your feet up after a long week and have a beverage of your choice to celebrate that the week is done and to wind down... Sounds great, but a youth leader's Friday night might look a little different to that!

Spending a few hours entertaining young people who are full of energy and who also can't wait for the weekend sounds crazy to some, but we are fortunate to have a fantastic team of people who love what they do and are passionate about the youth ministry we have at Arena Church.

Arena Students is a vibrant young people's ministry that runs on Friday nights at our Ilkeston and Mansfield campuses. We have games, live music and engaging messages that are relevant and applicable to the ages 11-17.

Over the two campuses, we have Small Groups and

WorldChangers nights. Small Group nights offer time to focus on relationships and is where we believe life change happens. We create space for young people to speak to their Small Group leaders and others in their group - a chance to explore their faith, talk through real life situations and find true freedom in world-class friendships.

Every first Friday of the month is WorldChangers - a party atmosphere with lively music and games, as well as a chance to change somebody else's world. This is the night to invite friends along to experience our WorldChanger, Jesus.

As a child, I can remember going to a youth group very similar to Arena Students. I went every single Friday night and as soon as it was over, I was looking forward to the next week. It was amazing to just be part of something that was so much fun and where I made so many friends and connections that I still am in contact with today.

At school, it was all I talked about and I couldn't stop

inviting my friends to it. The games, inspiring talks and leaders that really cared all contributed to me wanting to keep going back. For me, the most important part was the youth leaders remembering me, knowing my name, caring about me and accepting me for who I was.

Even now, I am thankful to those adults who gave up their Friday nights so that I could have fun, make lasting friendships and grow as a person.

I consider it an absolute privilege that I have the opportunity to offer the same thing to the young people of this generation. To be someone they look up to, to build them up, tell them that they matter and to accept them no matter what.

At an age where identity is often compromised by many influences, we want to be that positive influence telling young people that they are known, loved, valued and have a purpose. We love seeing them grow and develop and we are excited to see what this generation has to offer as they

grow up and make a difference in this community and even in this world.

From asking them how their week was to helping them to discover their purpose, the Arena Students leaders are committed to serving young people by creating an exciting environment with a contagious atmosphere where everyone is welcome.



Arena Students

ILKESTON
7:30-9PM
EVERY FRIDAY

MANSFIELD
6:30-8PM
EVERY 1ST+3RD FRI



@ARENASTUDENTS



ARENA FC WIN AGAIN!

By Elliott Stockdale

For this edition of the Arena Good News, I was asked by the editor Adam to write a lovely match report detailing how Arena FC got another trophy in their now impressive cabinet. On the same night of the game however, it happened to be date night for my girlfriend and I, so I was not able to attend another successful cup final.

Prior to the final though, Josh Holmes' side faced bottom of the league Grace Church who fielded a number of new players, including yours truly.

I have never claimed to be a good footballer, hence why I'm writing about the beautiful game most weeks instead of playing it. Disaster struck for Jon Stubberfield's team four days before the game with a considerable amount of their players pulling out with either injury or unavailability which is where I come into the story.

Lining up against guys you have known for years is a very weird feeling, one that I would perhaps compare to how Alexis

Sanchez felt when playing for Manchester United against Arsenal, a team he proudly served for over a four year period, playing 122 games and scoring 60 goals.

Facing the likes of Mansfield Pastor Josh Turner who I have seen dominate too many players' Saturdays that I have lost count was a nerve-racking ordeal. Alongside him in midfield was former Loughborough Dynamo midfielder Jared Holmes who was playing semi-professional football up until a few months ago and in defence lined up veteran Douglas Pink who has come out of retirement half a dozen times in the last decade.

Despite having the initial fear of playing them, with the help of a very close friend in Jono Kirk I have been trying to destroy my anxiety that I have been suffering from over recent months. The night before the game, I was reading my bible on the app, when Deuteronomy 31:6 popped up which says: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God

goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Taking this into the game with me, no matter what the result was going to be, removed any fears of expectations and just allowed me to enjoy the fact I was playing football with a great group of people.

For the opening 45 minutes, all 5 foot 9 of me played in the goalkeeper position. A few good saves were made, and we went in at the break at 1-1 which is more than we ever expected as a team that was playing with ten players after injury took our right-back out of the contest.

The second half didn't go too well, as Arena Church smashed another eight goals to squash any plans of a comeback from the underdogs.

I played outfield for the majority of the last quarter, where humiliation ensued. Cruyff turns, pirouettes and nutmegs began to come at my in-experienced self, with Josh even laughing as I fell to the ground following a 'mugging' off from one of his team-mates. It was not a joke at my poor footballing ability, but more laughter of seeing my attempts to stop a player with far

superior skill to me fail miserably.

The game finished with 9-3 the score, but heads held high from every Grace player, including myself. Coming up against a superb footballing side who are fighting for the title isn't easy; just look at Manchester City's last 14 league games!

Writing about Arena Church over the course of their 2018/19 season has been a delight and I am incredibly excited about the future for them with what will be another title chasing season next year. It was brilliant to play against them, despite the result and it made me hungry to play more myself as well as write about the sport so many people around the planet love.



explore
life
faith
meaning



Alpha

Alpha starts here

On Wednesday September 11th at 7pm at our Ilkeston Campus.

For all who want to explore the Christian faith or further understand it.

Free Event
Hot Food Provided

Book in or to find out more:
alpha@arenachurch.co.uk

Alpha is a 10 week course.