

Buxton United Reformed Church
Hardwick Square East



Welcome Julie to Uganda!

October 2026

Our magazine this month is mainly about two articles written by folk in our church family.

The first is from Julie Clayton who spent two weeks in Uganda supporting Helping Hands. She has lots of things she would like to share with us about the people she spent time with.



Do make sure you come to the morning service on

Sunday 4th October at 10.30 am
when Julie and Mark Clayton will be taking the service
and sharing the Uganda trip with us all.

The second is a reflection from Debbie Delight about standing stones she and Phil saw whilst on holiday in Corsica and those found in Britain.

It reminds me of Beaghmore Stone Circles of seven low stone circles, ten stone rows, and twelve cairns on the southeastern edge of the Sperrin Mountains in County

Beaghmore Stone Circles, Cairns and Alignments

Tyrone, Northern Ireland that we visited last year.

But there are also special standing stones carved on Boa Island in Co. Fermanagh. Now those are really something!

But enough of that – lets concentrate of Julie’s visit to Uganda first.

Eileen Blane



I would like to share some of my Facebook posts with you in this month's magazine, documenting my first, very memorable visit to Uganda during August and September.

It was an amazing experience; I learned so much and am praying that God will provide a way for me to return in the future.

Julie Clayton



I arrived safely in Uganda on Thursday afternoon. Stayed the night in Entebbe, then Ronnie, Junior and Adrian fetched me yesterday morning. A warm welcome awaited me at the centre from some of the sponsored children.

Lots of hugs and smiles.



A busy day at the centre with the sponsored children. They are a delight to work with.



Another busy day with the sponsored children. We read a story together, then the girls chose to do a craft activity based on the book and the boys chose to do football stories. This afternoon we build some Lego vehicles, following the instructions and working in teams.



All in a morning's work. They work so hard here all day every day and are such humble people.



The sewing ladies are over the moon to be involved in a project making tote bags. I will be bringing back all they make this week, to sell. The money will then go back into buying more material for the next project and paying a small sum to the ladies themselves.

If anyone would like to donate towards the cost of the first lot of material, it would be greatly appreciated.



I visited two of the Kasokoso communities supported by Helping Hands, Kamuli today, It was certainly an eye opener! I was able to tell one of these communities that they will soon be getting a borehole, thanks to the donations received. To say they were over the moon is an understatement!



We visited the other Kasokoso communities today. I met a lot of old people. They are not sure how old they are, but between 80 – 90 years.

Their surroundings are beautiful but they live in abject poverty.





♥ TWO WEEKS OF LOVE, HOPE AND SERVICE ♥

The past two weeks have been busy, meaningful, and truly special.

We were so happy to welcome our sister Julie, who came as a friend, servant, and blessing to the children and communities we serve.

Together, we shared the Gospel, visited sponsored children, saw how they're doing, and reached all five communities with messages of hope, love, and gratitude.

Together, we can bring hope, love, and a brighter future to every child.



With love and gratitude from the Kasokoso communities.

Thank you for believing in us and the children.



Reflection on Standing Stones by Debbie Delight

Standing stones also called menhirs have always amazed me!
About 10 miles from Buxton is Arbor Low.



The monument consists of a huge earth bank and internal ditch, enclosing a stone circle. Inside are the fallen remains of around 41 to 43 limestone stones originally set upright. And apparently, it's not exactly clear what the site was used for.

Further afield we are spoilt by more standing stones and here are a few.



Calanais Stone Prehistoric Stone Circle and Stone Alignment, Isle of Lewis Outer Hebrides Scotland:

Doug Blane.



Castlerigg stone circle, Cumbria: Doug Blane

And of course, we all know Stonehenge which had over 20,000 visitors this Summer Solstice.



Stonehenge Summer Solstice: Doug Blane

But I've never come across menhirs with stylised human faces, armour and weapons like swords and daggers, until a visit to Filitosa in Corsica.



Filitosa is famous for a remarkable collection of carved statue menhirs depicting human figures and evidence of nearly 8,000 years of human occupation, from the Neolithic period through to Bronze Age and into Roman times.

What were the function of these menhirs in Filitosa?

In short ... nobody knows for certain.

The main theories are:

- Memorials to warriors or important people.
- Protective or territorial markers.
- Religious or ancestral figures.
- A combination of all three.

Apparently in many prehistoric societies, political leaders, warriors, ancestors and sacred figures were not sharply separated.

A carved stone could simultaneously commemorate a person, mark territory and serve a ritual function.

The menhirs in Filitosa were made from local granite, a very hard stone and made using simple stone working. They took a lot of effort!

This is one.

I wonder if these menhirs had a religious role? The archaeologists suggest the statue-menhirs may have had a religious role, but they don't necessarily mean "religion" in the sense of organized temples or priesthoods. They're often thinking about beliefs involving ancestors,



spirits, sacred places, or supernatural protection.

Maybe the menhirs were a creative outlet?

But like I mentioned earlier - Transporting and raising multi-ton stones took such a great deal of effort. And when prehistoric societies invested that much labour in monuments, archaeologists often suspect the site had ceremonial or sacred importance beyond a purely practical function.

The statues are so intriguing, you can see the faces and carvings, but the beliefs behind them remain largely hidden. The people who carved them left no written records.

***What do you think?** Let me know after the Sunday service over coffee sometime.*

Debbie Delight



Doll Tor stone circle in Peak district: Doug Blane

Buxton URC Sunday services

4 th October	10:30am	Julie and Mark Clayton Uganda focus
11 th October	10:30am	BBC Songs of Praise
18 th October	10:30am	Roger Horne Church Action on Poverty
25 th October	10:30am	Cath Sterndale
1 st November	10:30am	Roger Horne
8 th November Remembrance Sunday	10:30am	Mark Houghton with Communion - <i>(to be confirmed)</i>
15 th November	10:30am	Ben Twelves Safeguarding Sunday
22 nd November	10:30am	Link to All Saints' Marple
29 th November First Sunday in Advent	10:30am	Eileen Blane with Nick Fawcett's Reflections.
6 th December Second Sunday in Advent	10:30am	Eileen Blane with Nick Fawcett's Reflections.

Services may be changed when necessary.

Dates to Remember

Elders and Leaders Meeting

Wednesday 25th November 2pm
at church.



Waste Not Want Not ***At Buxton United Reformed Church.***

*Please join with us for free coffee, cake and company
On Saturday 3rd October and Saturday 7th November.
Between **10am and 12midday** in the church*

Contributions for the magazine

Thank you everyone who has contributed to this magazine.

We really do appreciate your contributions so please keep them coming.

Contributions please for the next magazine to

Eileen and Peter Blane by 26th October 2026.

To ensure your magazine is as informative as possible please keep us up-to-date with news and events.



We are producing only a limited number of printed magazines.

An electronic version is available to read on the church's website:www.buxtonurc.org.uk

A *big thank you* to Cath, Steph and Daniel Sterndale for the Harvest service and all the lunch preparation, serving and clearing.



Please pray:-

For the Saturday Coffee Morning on
3rd October

For our Elders and Leaders and others as they plan, prepare and lead our worship each Sunday.

Giving thanks for the two-week visit that Julie Clayton made to Uganda in August and September, working with Helping Hands a Christian Charity based in Kamuli, Uganda.



With thanksgiving that Cath Sterndale had her first eye operation that has made a difference to her vision of colours in particular.

For Eileen Delight needing special support from her family and care staff.

For homeless people now that winter is approaching and please pray for the work of High Peak Homeless Help.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 4 6-7*)





The Delight family saw the eclipse from Solomon's Temple with many other people who had the same idea.



Buxton United Reformed Church

Website: www.buxtonurc.org.uk

We warmly welcome everyone who wishes to join us for
Sunday worship

Details of services, including times, can be found inside this magazine
and on our website.

*We offer a sincere, loving welcome to all in Christian
Worship.*

Activities for young people

- **Rainbows:** for girls aged 5-7 Tues. 5 - 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale (Tel. 07967205209)
- **Brownies:** for girls aged 7-10 Tues. 6 - 7:30pm
Leader: Cath Sterndale (Tel. 07973670595)
- **Guides:** for girls aged 10 to 14 Tues. 6pm
Leader: Stephanie Sterndale (Tel. 07967205209)